JOHNSON
HISTORY
EDINBORGH
1822-1972
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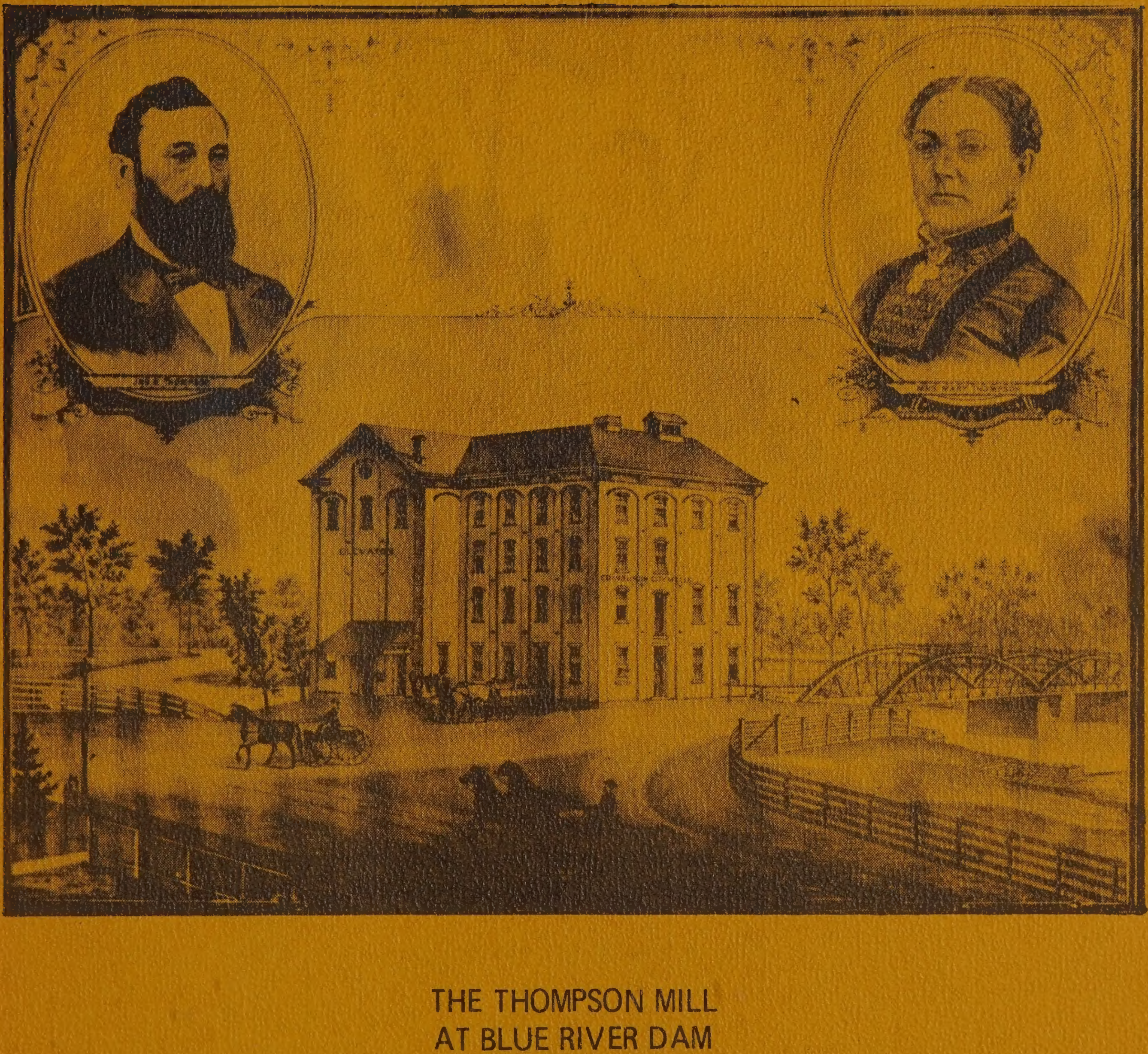
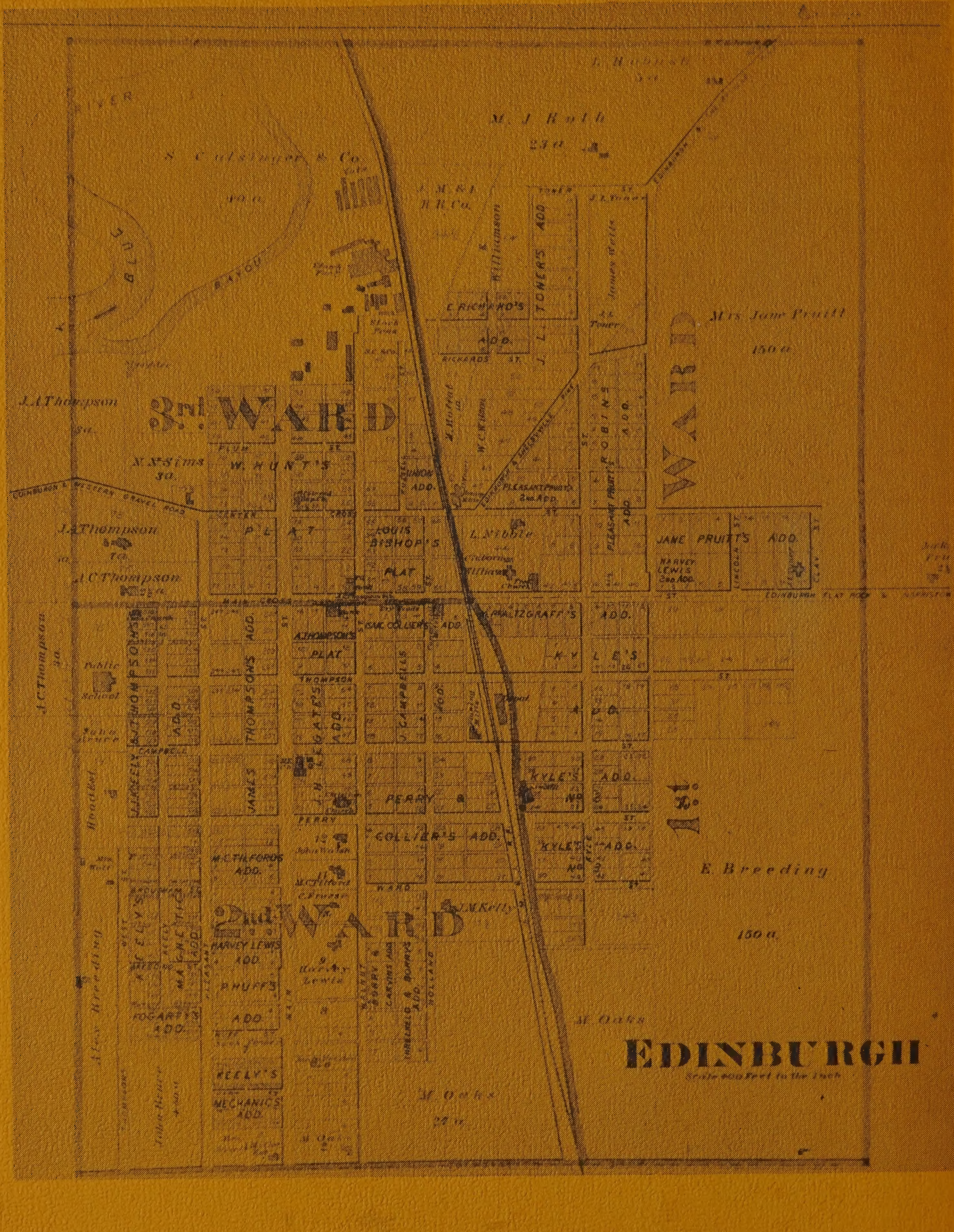
Edinburg, Indiana

Sesquicentennial

1822 – 1972



THE THOMPSON MILL
AT BLUE RIVER DAM
AS SHOWN IN
BANTA'S ATLAS
OF 1881

EDINBURGH
Scale 400 Feet to the Inch
3rd WARD
2nd WARD
1st WARD
BLUE RIVER
BAYOU
S. Cutsinger & Co.
40 a.
M. J. Roth
23 a.
J. M. & I. R.R. Co.
E. Robbins
J. A. Thompson
N. N. Sims
30.
J. C. Thompson
A. C. Thompson
Public School
W. HUNT'S
PLAT
LOUIS BISHOP'S PLAT
UNION ADD.
L. Nibble
C. RICHARD'S ADD.
RICHARDS ST.
J. L. TONER'S ADD.
James Wells
ROBINS ADD.
PLEASANT PRUITT'S ADD.
PLEASANT PRUITT'S 2nd ADD.
Mrs Jane Pruitt
150 a.
JANE PRUITT'S ADD.
HARVEY LEWIS 2nd ADD.
EDINBURGH FLAT ROCK & HARTSVILLE
EDINBURGH & WESTERN GRAVEL ROAD
MAIN CROSS ST.
A. THOMPSON'S PLAT
ISAAC COLLIER'S ADD.
PFALTZGRAFF'S ADD.
KYLE'S ADD.
KYLE'S ADD. No. 2
KYLE'S ADD. No. 3
THOMPSON ST.
THOMPSONS ADD.
J. & W. THOMPSON'S ADD.
J. KEELY
CAMPBELL ST.
J. CAMPBELL'S ADD.
H. HOLGATE'S ADD.
PERRY &
COLLIER'S ADD.
JAMES
M. C. TILFORD'S ADD.
PERRY ST.
WARD ST.
J. M. Kelly
E. Breeding
150 a.
KEELY'S
HARVEY LEWIS ADD.
HUFF'S ADD.
FOGARTY'S ADD.
KEELY'S MECHANICS ADD.
BURRY & CARVER'S ADD.
IRELAND & BURRY'S ADD.
HOLLAND
M. Oaks
Alex Breeding

A HISTORY OF EDINBURG

COMMEMORATING

THE

150TH ANNIVERSARY

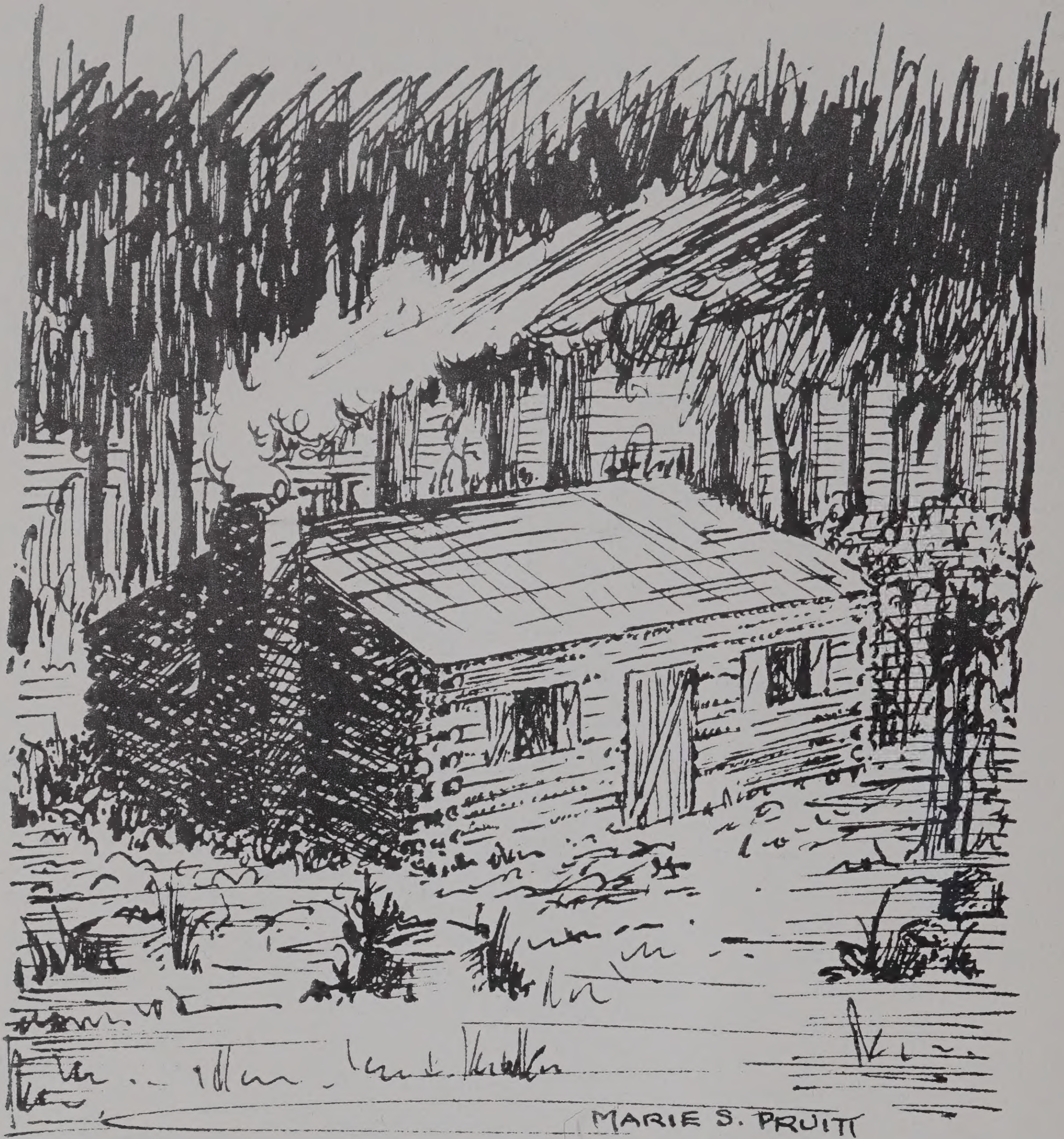
OF OUR TOWN

1822 — 1972

With thanks to those pioneers who founded Edinburg
and dedicated to those descendants who are among us and
yet to come

The Sesquicentennial Commission had this historical booklet published on the 150th Anniversary of Edinburg so that the rich heritage of the work and accomplishments of our pioneer ancestors may be understood and appreciated and be an inspiration for those who come afterwards in the next 150 years.

Compiled by
Sarah B. Otto


MARIE S. PRUITT

JOHN CAMPBELL, THE FIRST SETTLER, BUILT HIS CABIN IN THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF HIS EIGHTY ON THE PRESENT SITE OF EDINBURG.

1820

EARLY EDINBURG HISTORY

Our town, Edinburg, the first settlement in Johnson County, is situated in the southeast section of the county, located on the Old Indian trails from the Ohio River to the north and west, occupies a beautiful site on the bank of Blue River and is encompassed by a flourishing agricultural section.

It was always a mill community, at first grist mills and elevators supplied by the grain of the surrounding countryside, and later large veneer mills which have made it the industrial city of the county and the walnut veneer capital of the world.

The old trail ran from where Heflin's camp is now to west of the mill site on Blue River. The first settler, John Campbell, of Tennessee, left his home in Tennessee in 1814 to search for a home in Ohio, there married Ruth Perkins, and in 1817 moved to Connersville in Indiana and in 1820 moved into the "new purchase" on Blue River arriving from the east. He, his wife and four sons set out through the wilderness to become the first settlers in a county that was yet unformed and unnamed. Four little girls belonging to his household he left behind to come later. A neighbor, Benjamin Crews, went with them to help clear a path and drive his domestic animals and team. The road which they cut must have been the most primitive of paths, for when two years later, according to Banta's History of Johnson County, Alexander Thompson, Israel Watts and William Reynolds came over the same general route they found a wagon road to Flat Rock, south of Rushville, but thence on they had to cut their own way.

Campbell reached Blue River the 4th of March, 1820, and at once began the erection of a pole cabin on the tract of land lying immediately south of Edinburg and the same spring cleared a small field which he enclosed with a brush fence to keep out his own stock in time to raise a crop of corn that season. His cabin was built on the southeast corner of his eighty acres which would place him approximately 300 feet east of Kyle street just north of the Bartholomew County line. His neighbor, Crews, moved to Blue River just south of Campbell and later he found he was in Bartholomew County.

The same year William Freeman halted on Driftwood, Joshua Palmer on the banks of Blue River, near Thompson's mill, old Joe Townsend already had a cabin on the brow of the hill west of Edinburg, (on the John A. Thompson estate - Byce Sconce location). Allen Williams located in the fall just south of the county line and east of John Campbell. Others in the area in 1820 were Joseph Bishop, John Lewis and James Harris, George Cutsinger, Jerry Barlow, Able and David Webb all in 1820.

On Oct. 4, 1820 the first lands in Blue River and Johnson County were put on sale at Brookville at the land office and many choice tracts were purchased about Edinburg at prices ranging from $1.25 to $3.00 per acre. John Campbell on that day entered his eighty acres paying $100 for the entire tract.

The southeast section of Johnson County, Sec. 34, contains almost all of Edinburg. The southeast quarter was bought by Zack Sparks. It afterwards passed into the hands of Richard Pile, long was the Isaac White farm and later was the Elza Breeding farm which included nearly all of the east part of Edinburg south of Main Cross street, east of Kyle street and extending east beyond the present city limits.

The northeast quarter of the section was sold to William Reynolds who resided in Tenn., anc who paid $1.50 per acre. It long was owned by Mrs. Jane Pruitt who laid out the northeast plat of Edinburg. The section corners on east Main Cross street at Grant Street and extended to the Shelby County line.

Abraham Lee bought the northwest quarter running from Grant street corner on Main Cross street west to the top of the hill, thence north one half mile. He sold the quarter section to Lewis Bishop in 1821.

John Campbell's purchase was the east half of the southwest quarter which lies south of Main Cross and east of Walnut street to Kyle street and 17 rods east of the street.

The west half of the southwest quarter and 80 acres immediately to the west of it in the adjoining section sold to Alexander Thompson at $1.60 per acre. Bound north by Main Cross, east by Walnut, south by the county line running one half mile, thence north to Main Cross street.

At this sale Nathan Kyle purchased his lands paying $3.00 per acre. John Lewis, Sr., and

Edward Carvin bought their homestead lands at the same time. The 80 acres which the Thompson Mill stood on fell into the hands of a party who, learning that a river ran through it, became disgusted, never came to examine it and afterwards sold to James Thompson for $200.

In 1821 Edward Carvin, Nathan Kyle, and Joseph VanMeter came with their families to the lands purchased the previous season. Alexander Thompson, father of James and Alfred C., came in March, 1821, accompanied by Israel Watts who settled at the junction of Williamsburg(Nineveh) and Franklin roads between Blue River and Sugar Creek. The Hageman family settled in 1821 near St. George Church; Lewis Bishop and Thomas Russell came this year, Issac Collier, and William Hunt about the same time. The following year, 1822, came Jake Saunders, Martin Cutsinger, father of Samuel, and Barnetts, Moses and William Pruitt, Thomas Dupree; Lewis Runkle (father of Pulaski) in 1823; Holland Legate came in 1825 or 1826 and the father of Alexander and Elza Breeding in 1828.

Alexander Thompson and Louis Bishop were proprietors of the town which was laid out as early as 1822 but the plat not recorded until 1825. The original plat contained 32 lots, and was bounded north by Center Cross, east by Walnut, south by Thompson and west by Pleasant. William Hunt in an early day bought Lewis Bishop's west 80 bounded south by west Main Cross and east by Walnut and with the unsold lots gave his name to the enlargement. Subsequently, Isaac Collier added an addition and the whole plat recorded in 1834 according to Banta's history of the county, consisted of 111 lots. The plat as recorded then includes the following streets running east and west: Plumb, fifty feet wide; Center Cross, 30 feet wide; Main Cross street, sixty feet; Thompson street left out of history book, but certainly here; and Campbell, 50 feet. Streets running north and south are Pleasant, 50 feet; Main, sixty-nine feet wide; Walnut, 47 feet; and Holland, 36 feet. Early commissioners selected a site for a public square at the corner of Main and Center Cross streets where the colored church is located and the square can be found on abstracts in the area.

"Naming of Edinburg is more or less uncertain, "states Branigin in his "History of Johnson County of 1913, "but all evidence points to Alexander Thompson who was a Scotsman by birth and that the town was named in honor of the capital of his native land, Edinburgh."

In 1972 how the town received its name is as uncertain but we have found that Alexander Thompson was not born in Scotland, but in Virginia of Scotch-Irish descent. This is based on the research of Byce and Eva Mae Sconce on the Thompson family history and on a geneology of the Pruitt family in the possession of Mrs. Henry Pruitt of Edinburg. The geneology was compiled by Mary Pruitt who married Ed Thompson in 1869 and who included a portion of the Thompson geneology in the Pruitt geneology having done research on the Thompson family also. Mrs. Thompson and her daughter Bona, traveled to Virginia, to South Carolina and to Eruope in looking up historical records of the ancestors of Alexander Thompson finding he was born in Virginia of Scotch-Irish ancestry. The geneology was written in her writing in 1896.

So the second theory of the naming of Edinburg, that the suggestion of Alexander Thompson to name the new town after his favorite city must have been taken. Another account is too trifling for historical belief according to historians. It was told that on the day the new town was platted, Edward Adams, son-in-law of Lewis Bishop, a "good easy soul," familiarly known as Eddie, demanded some recognition and asked the new town be called Eddiesburg after him.

The "H" on Edinburg was used through the 1870, 1880, and 1890's in the minutes of the Town Board, but was not found after 1899. When Banta's Atlas and History of Johnson County were published, 1881 and 1888, the "H" was used. Since 1899 the "H" has been dropped officially.

The first cabin was erected on the southeast corner of Main Cross and Main streets upon which site afterwards stood the old Edinburg Hotel, later the Henry Wright residence and now the public library. It was built approximately 80 feet south of Main Cross on Main street and Booth and Newby of Salem contracted Alexander Thompson to build them a suitable store room which he did in 1822 and the first stock of goods in the county was put on sale in Edinburg. Their agent was William Hensley, also the first postmaster. The house was a diminuitive log structure. The goods were brought up Driftwood by pirogue and unloaded by the people of the community behind the Alexander Breeding residence on Driftwood (west of Legion post) and brought in to town. Mr. Hensley carried on a fairly successful business for several years exchanging his merchandise for such articles as ginseng, deer skins, deer hams, large quantities of which he hauled to Salem, thence marketed to Louisville and other ports on the Ohio.

The second cabin was Isaac Collier's blacksmith shop and the third was built by John Adams (wheelright), on Main Cross street, Patrick Cowan on Main street, Gavin Mitchell where the Central Hotel stood (Haslam bldg.), and James Thompson on south Walnut street. These were all log buildings of the most primitive pattern.

In the year 1825 Israel Watts kept a store on the west side of Main Street and the year following Thomas Carter was granted a license to keep a "publick house" in the town. Other early merchants of the town prior to 1930 were Otto Lyman, John Givens, George B. Holland, Austin Shipp and Timothy Threlkeld. Holland's license was dated 1828 for a grocery. Others were Treadway followed by Alfred and James Thompson, Samuel Cutsinger, Lyman and Givens were merchants on the bank site where earlier William Cline had a cabinet shop. George Earlywine was the second blacksmith and in 1827 had lot No. 1 in Hunt's Addition, the bank site. Hiram Smith, the first doctor, was followed by Falsecraft, (Pfabzgraff) Roland and Davis who tussled with the ague. When Dr. & Mrs. Falsecraft came to Edinburg in 1836 there were 19 families in the town and the suburbs. Magdelene Pfabzgraff had come to America from Bavaria in 1835. She was the first Catholic in Edinburg and later became Mrs. Tierney.

These mercantile establishments were quite successful, being at that time the only market between White River and Madison. Hunt kept a ferry and a pontoon bridge at the state road crossing of Blue River, just below the railroad bridge. Still later he built a wagon bridge at the same place which washed away about the year 1847.

The town grew very slowly and in 1845 was not over 250 when the construction of the Madison and Indianapolis railroad was completed to Edinburg. In a short time the population more than doubled. Edinburg early became the leading grain and pork market of the central part of the state with merchants coming to the railroad as far as Knightstown, Danville, Gosport, Spencer, and Bloomington. After the railroad was continued to Indianapolis in 1847 the growth of the town was checked somewhat, "but it has always remained the principal manufacturing center of the county" writes Elba Branigin in his History of Johnson County.

Other merchants during the early days were Harvey Lewis, Thompson-Fogarty and Givens, John Walsh, Frost and Valentine, J. C. Valentine, Walsh and Deming, Walsh and Sergeant, Valentine, Maley and Hyde.

PROMINENT INDUSTRIES

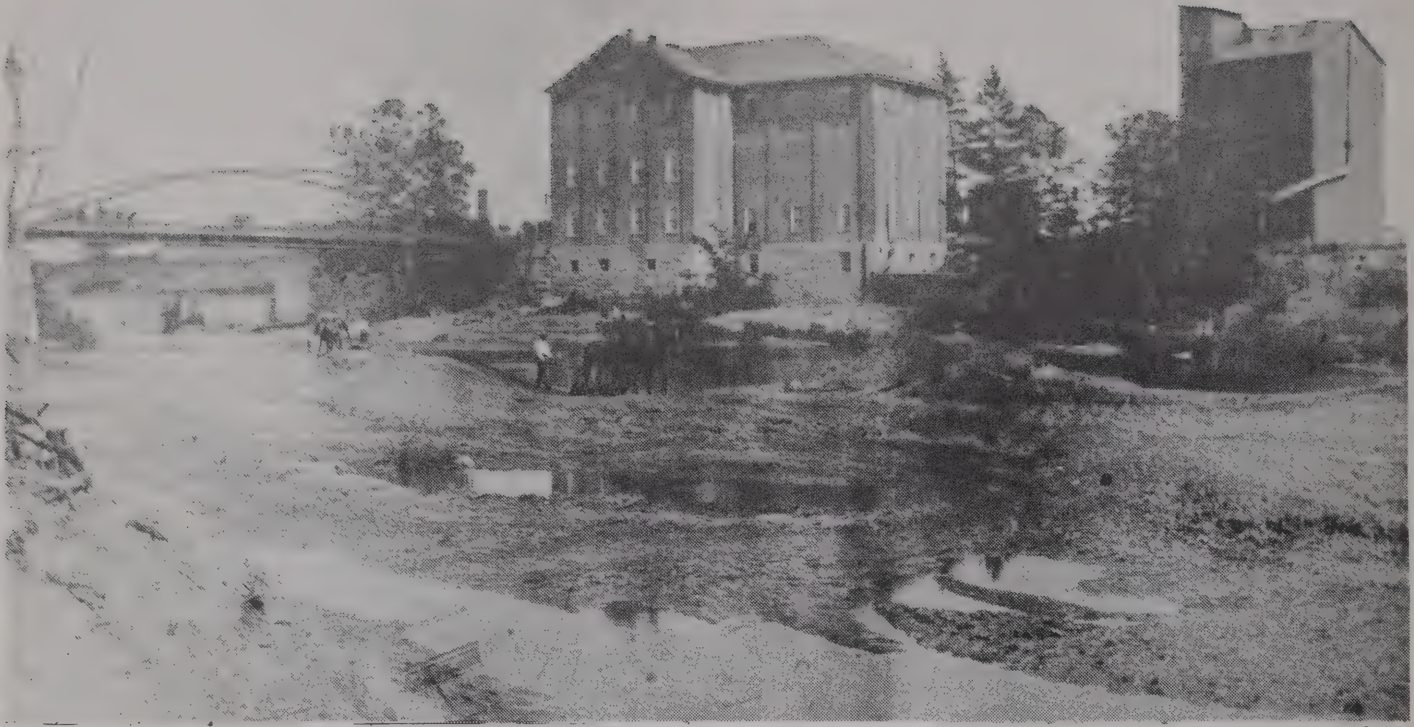
Among the prominent industries of the town which contributed to the early prominence was the saw and flouring mill which James Thompson and Isaac Collier built in 1826 on Blue River at the falls. A log dam was a short distance above the present dam.

This mill was highly prized by the citizens and for a number of years furnished nearly all of the flour and lumber used by the early settlers of Johnson, Shelby, and Bartholomew Counties.

Mr. Thompson's Mill was profitable from the beginning and to supply the growing demand of an increasing population he first enlarged facilities and in 1850 erected a large four-story brick structure on the present mill site. This was the largest and best mill in Johnson County. James Thompson married Susan Collier, daughter of Isaac Collier. One home was the Holt house near the dam and later the large brick mansion back on Mill Road where the Marsh Workman family formerly lived and which is now torn down.

After operating the mill a few years, James Thompson rented the mill to his sons, and in 1859 one of the sons, John A. Thompson, purchased the property and became sole proprietor. In 1859 the business rapidly increased and during the Civil War, the annual sales were enormous, a part of which was realized from flour sold to the government. It is told all the flour used by the Northern Army was ground here. In 1872 the mill was entirely destroyed by fire and the mill which Edinburg residents remember was erected immediately, a brick and stone structure six stories high representing a capital of over $100,000 with the latest improved machinery. Until John A. Thompson's death in 1886 the mill was extremely prosperous. In its best days immediately following 1872 capacity of the mill was 200 barrels per day and the flour known for its superior quality was shipped to all parts of the United States. Mr. Thompson had built the present dam at Blue River in 1884 of Indiana limestone approximately 70 feet below the old log dam.

During these years in 1867 John A. Thompson built a residence on north Pleasant Street, now the Byce Sconce home, an outstanding show place of Edinburg, one of Indiana's beautiful old homes and where his wife, Mrs. Mary Cutsinger Thompson, was a hostess to all the not-



Scene of Mill and Blue River about 1900 when an attempt was made to change the course of the river.

ables who visited in Edinburg and where she entertained hundreds of friends. In 1874 the John A. Thompson Bank, a private bank, was established and located on the south side of Main Cross street at the alley between Walnut and Main streets. Upon Mr. Thompson's death the mill was operated by the sons, James E. (Ed) Thompson with Sam Thompson.

The mill was closed when the John A. Thompson Bank failed in the Cleveland panic of the 1890's. It was in the hands of the Thompson family until 1899.

Ed Norton of this vicinity bought the mill and operated it with little success. Wilk Holland was running the mill doing custom grinding in 1912. All the machinery was shipped to Chicago firm who owned the mill.Holland moved to a mill in Flatrock by the time of the flood of 1913 and in 1914 Alfred Workman came from Furnas Mill to run the mill and manufactured corn meal. At one time the Town of Edinburg attempted to manufacture its electricity but it was unsatisfactory. During World War 1 the mill and its site were bought by Will Irwin of Columbus. Generators were installed to produce additional electricity for the Union Starch and Refining Company at the north edge of Edinburg. After the moving of the Starch Factory to Illinois the mill stood vacant for over 30 years until at last it was torn down in 1957.

When the dam was erected a brush dam was built to the north and the water turned into the millrace to divert the water that construction could be made. Eighty-eight years old, 1972, the Sesquicentennial year of the Town, the dam always has been a popular haunt for fishermen and when water is rushing over the dam is one of Edinburg's spots of beauty.

Other early industries of the town were a distillery built by Otto Lyman as early as 1835 near the Starch Factory. A second distillery was built around 1850 the enterprise passing into the hands of Dillard Ricketts dry goods and hog merchants who came a few years previously. It changed hands and finally burned in 1866. The whiskey was marketed by wagon to Louisville and Cincinnati. J. H. Clarke, Edinburg historian of 1875, stated one citizen had given him the names of 12 distilleries in four miles of Edinburg.

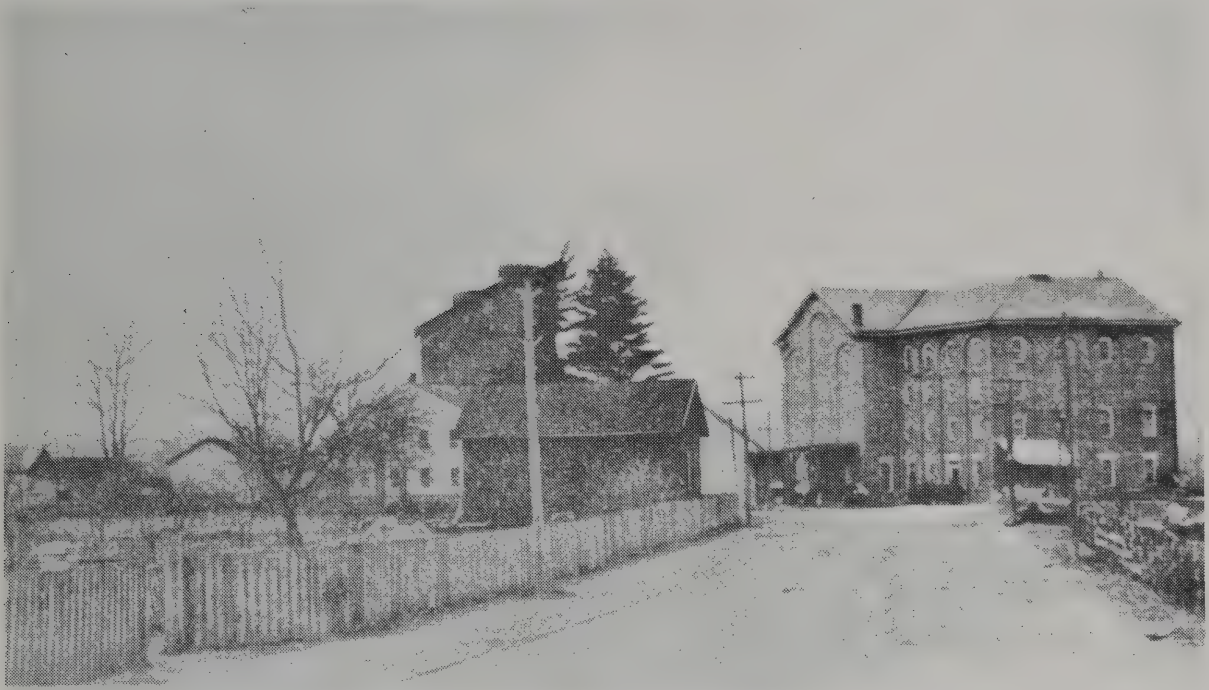
A tannery was established by Pulaski Runkle about 1837; a hominy mill erected in 1852 by the Honorable Henry Bradley which was the first exclusively hominy mill ever operated in the United States. Hudnut and Tilford, and afterwards Hosford and Tilford, became its owners and it was burned to the ground in 1862.

Holland Legate, in 1854, built a large flouring mill which he sold to J. L. Toner some years after and which burned in the spring of 1871. Mr. Toner the same season erected a hominy mill on the railroad at the junction of Center Cross and Shelby Avenue. At the time of his death in 1856, Mr. Legate was probably the largest land owner and wealthiest farmer in this section.

Hosford and Tilford after the burning of their first mill in 1862, immediately fitted up their three-story brick on the railroad, corner of Main Cross and Holland streets, and later Mr. Tilford was sole proprietor and added machinery for manufacturing flour.

A woolen mill was built in 1863 by a stock company, Dalmbert and Sergeant who dealt in dry goods. The mill was near the Starch Factory and manufactured jeans, yarns, flannels and blankets. It later was moved to Columbus

All of these industries were abandone early and a new line of industries took thei place.



Mill before 1905 looking west on what is now Rd. 252.

Once a familiar sight at entrance to Edinburg.

FERRYS AND ROADS

One of the first problems confronting the early pioneers was the establishment of ferries across the rivers and streams. As early as 1831 James Thompson was granted a license to keep a ferry on his land below his mill on the south side of Blue River. A year later John Campbell (not first settler) was allowed to keep a ferry on Sugar Creek west of Edinburg, (Nineveh Road) and a ferry had been established at the crossing of the Madison and Indianapolis State Road at Sugar Creek (Bradley Ford and now old Oliver bridge crossing).

Early bridges were built across streams by local individuals or communities without outside help. The first record of the use of Johnson County funds for that purpose was in August, 1851, when $100 was appropriated for a bridge across Indian Creek. The first iron bridge was erected as a public charge in 1869-70 at Thompson's Mill in 1869 and at Bradley's Ford on Sugar Creek in 1870.

The only stage line in the county was established over the line of the Madison and Indianapolis state road about the time the railroads began to be built in the state. Taverns were built along the road about five miles apart for the travelers and also for changing horses when necessary besides taverns in Edinburg and Franklin. This stage line was abandoned about the time that the railroad was built from Edinburg to Indianapolis in 1847.

The first roads to be built were plank roads. Timber was plentiful. By the year 1850 there were 400 miles of "planked roads", The first planked road in Johnson County was from Edinburg to Williamsburg (Nineveh) in 1850.

The present bridge when completed in 1927

Another method of construction was the corduroy road. Logs were laid in parallel lines and then logs hewed square were laid crosswise. When cost was too much round logs were used and dirt thrown on top. When the dirt washed off or sifted through the weary traveler was welcome to reach his destination. The late Clifford Hamilton in his notes on Edinburg states there was a corduroy road built in Edinburg from Perry street on Walnut south over swampy ground to the county line in 1865. In 1916 when Mr. Hamilton was working installing water meters in front of the old J. M. Carvin house (now Francis Otto house) walnut logs buried six feet deep were found. The south part of town was much lower at that time.

Toll roads were authorized by the State in 1852 and again in 1865. In the year 1866 the Mauckslerry Gravel Road Company was organized to "run from William Ditmars near Franklin to Drake's School House about three miles west of Edinburg (where the Maucksferry crossed old Nineveh road, now in Camp Atterbury). By 1870 practically all Johnson County roads were toll roads. By 1887 the Legislature authorized assessment for improvement of roads.

More about roads. U.S. Highway No. 1 came through Edinburg in the early 1900's, coming over the bridge at the mill turning south on Pleasant street, then west on the County line and south at the entrance to the Cemetery. The road was later moved west to Eisenhower Drive, still coming over the Mill bridge and on south. It was then number U.S. 31. Those were the days when everyone in Johnson and Bartholomew County came to Edinburg for one of Harry Workman's hamburgers (just south of Holt house) enroute home from a dance at Heflen's Camp. Still later, in the 1950's, the road was made a dual as it is today with a stone bridge over Blue River farther down the river.

RAILROADS

With the advent of the Madison and Indianapolis railroad from the south to Edinburg in 1845, new life came to Edinburg. When the M and I reached Edinburg, Indianapolis was still isolated from the rest of the country. Other cities, such as Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis, Chicago, had access by water. Edinburg became the distributing point for a large number of towns in central and southern Indiana, the leading grain and pork market of the central part of the state, for over the new railroad produce got to Madison on the Ohio, chief meat packing center in the West, and from Madison to New Orleans and the world.

A railroad from Edinburg to Shelbyville? Sounds unlikely today. But the opening of the railroad from Indianapolis through Shelbyville to Cincinnati was the opportunity! The railroad was a link to the new line. Aug. 1, 1849, the Edinburg-Shelbyville lateral railroad was completed. It joined the M & I north of depot and probably used the turntable of the M & I located on Thompson street at the Webb Veneer building, continued north and branched off just south of the Center Cross crossing, continued up Shelby Ave., took off back of the doctor's clinic, then east swinging north to the Edinburg -Shelbyville road, on to Marietta and Shelbyville.

By 1847 the Madison-Indianapolis railroad moved on to Indianapolis and eventually impetus was taken from Edinburg as a trade center. Through the years the story has been told of that first train trip to Indianapolis. A young Edinburg boy, Jerome Armstrong whose mother had Galt House, made the trip. People along the line crowded the flatcars for the first ride. It was an overnight trip and many stayed at the then Bates House (old Claypool Hotel).

The Jeffersonville-Indianapolis railroad reached Columbus in 1852. The Madison-Indianapolis road was reluctant to grant use of its rails from Columbus to Indianapolis, so the Jeff-Indianapolis road built track of its own from Columbus to Edinburg during 1852-53 reaching Edinburg in 1853.

So from Columbus to Edinburg there were two railroads parallel, the M & I farther west and the Jeff & I came to town on the same location as the present track. In the meantime an agreement was made allowing the use of the M & I tracks from Columbus to Indianapolis by the Jeff-I railroad. The joint use of the tracks from Edinburg to Indianapolis lessoned the value of the lateral to Shelbyville which was abandoned in 1855.

The M & I became bankrupt and May 1, 1866, the Jeffersonville-Madison-Indianapolis railroad was formed. The first passenger station was on Campbell street between the railroad and Kyle street.

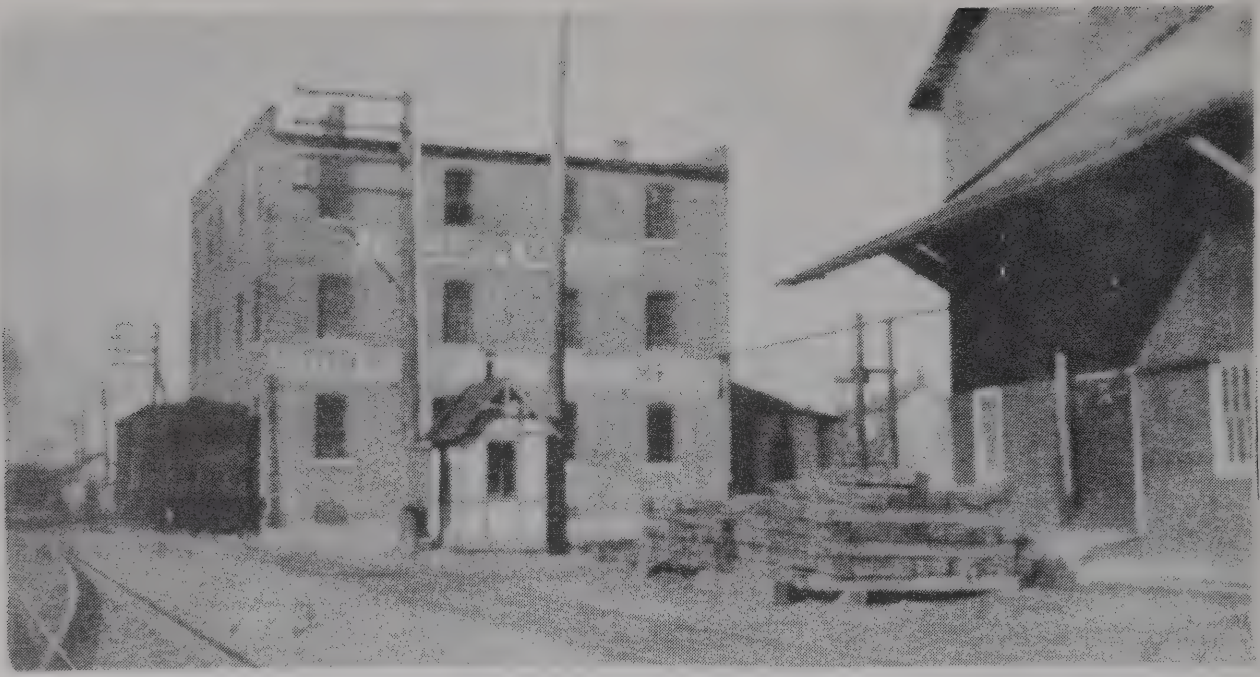
James L. Bradley, farmer and stock raiser, of northwest of Edinburg, was either president or a large stockholder in the Jeff-Madison-Indianapolis road. Also Harvey Lewis, merchant and banker of Edinburg, had an interest in the road. It has been told that Mr. Bradley used to flag down the train when he wanted to go someplace.

In 1921 the railroad became a part of the Pennsylvania Railroad. In later years during Camp Atterbury days and with the business of the veneer mills and elevators the Edinburg depot hauled more freight than any other small town on the line.

The story of the railroad cannot be left without relating the story of the Edinburg - Shelbyville lateral and how the 16-mile line got its nickname "Jeckwater Railroad," a popular subject for many Hoosier newspaper columnists. The tale is when water in the engine got low passengers would be asked to jump off, grab leather buckets and fill them from nearby streams for the engine. Also passengers were asked to "wood up", wood being the chief fuel. The station was at Smithland and Edinburg passengers were glad to help so they could be home for dinner.

With the coming of the railroad in 1845 the town began moving east from the original settlement of Pleasant, Main, Walnut, Center Cross south to Thompson.

Edinburg Depot



Center Cross street crossing showing watchman's shanty

There was a large influx of inhabitants from various quarters at this time, many of them came to work on the railroad and to be merchants in the busy time. New residents included the Irish where in the old country there had been a potato famine; German tradesmen who came to America to rid themselves of the burden of maintaining an army. Such names as Dr. Rush, John Clark, Jacob L. Toner, M. J. Fogarty, John Walsh, William P. Sims, Fitzgibbons; and by 1850-1851 James Mullen, Michael Moffett, Michael Lynch, Martin Broderick, Mr. Donahue, Gerstorffs were heard in Edinburg.

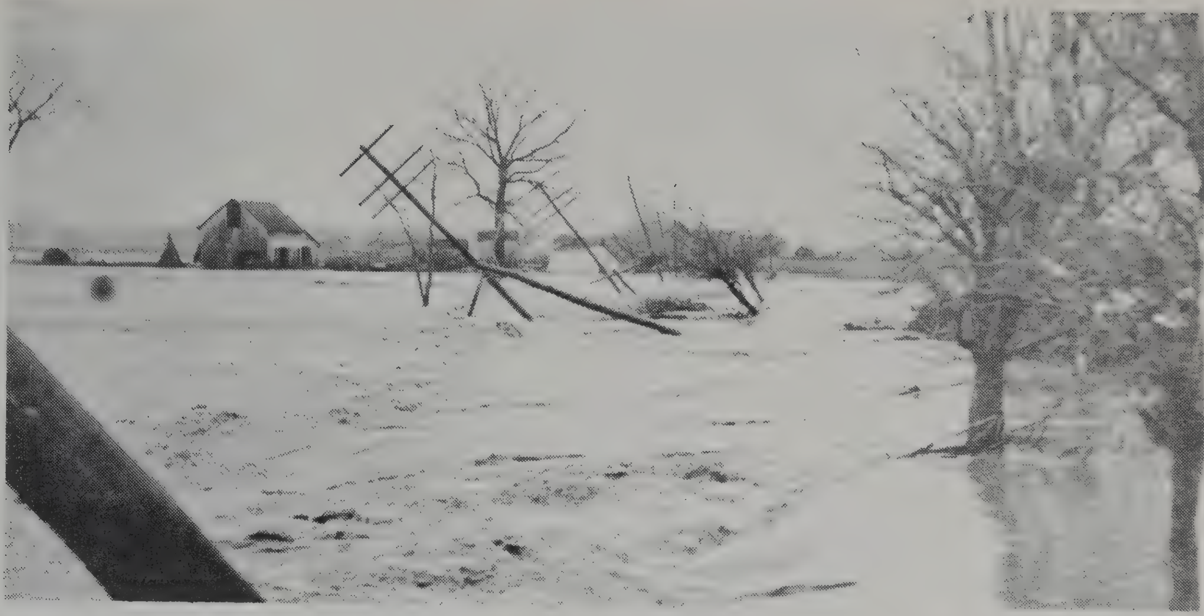
Many men in Edinburg have been associated with the railroad all their lives. Some of the section foremen were Frank Cochran (father of Arta Cochran) who was with the railroad over 50 years, John Foley, later Shelby Lewis; station agents J. B. Townsend, Bert Johnson, Ed Harlow, Marshall Bernard, and the last agent, Leonard Babcock. Many who had helped build the railroad in later years were railroad crossing men to stop traffic when trains came through. Some of them were Ben Hill at the depot and Thompson streets, Martin Broderick, later John Foley, Charles Nelson at Main Cross street; Michael Donahue and Arlie Owens at the Roller Mills (elevator) and Center Cross. Among the depot men and telegraphers were Ernest Christie, John Hyde, Tom Stout, Louis Farr, Ed Frohe, Charles Davis, James Davis.

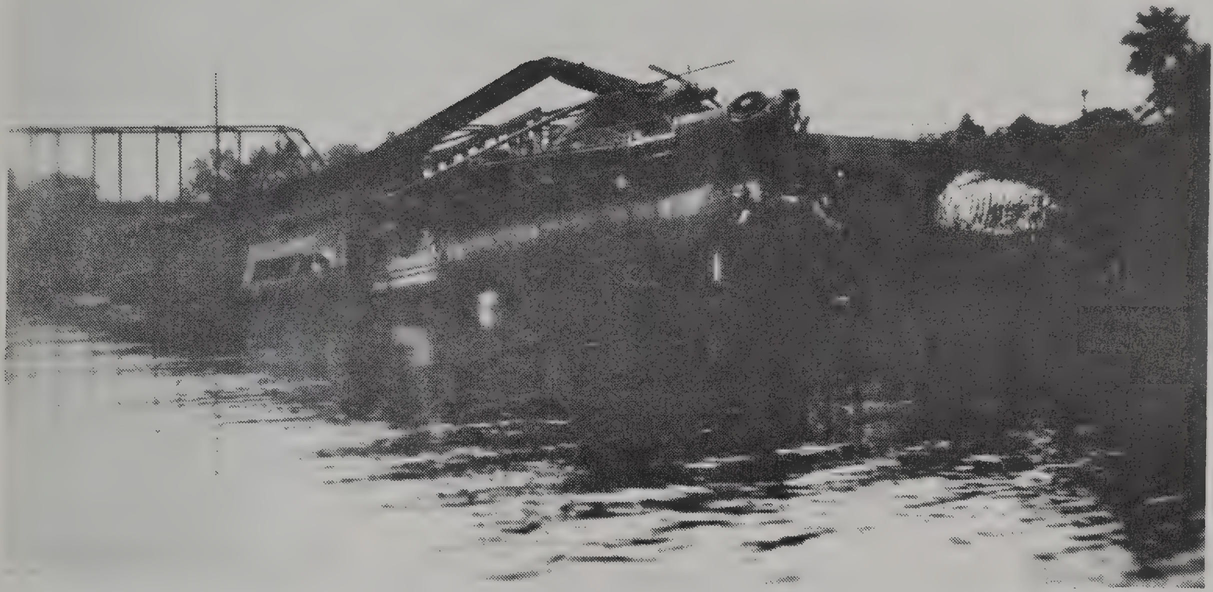
The coming of the automobile and shipping by truck made a difference with the railroad. There were no passenger trains stopping in Edinburg after 1959. By July, 1961, the Edinburg Railway Express was consolidated with Columbus. The express company had a long existence in Edinburg with one family having it through three generations, first Michael Roth, George Roth for many years with the express office across the street from the present Post Office, and later Bice Roth was associated with the company. Miss Idella Roth started with the old Adams Express and was employed there 50 years.

With the railroad came the traveler and to accomodate him hotels were needed. W. P. Sims about the year 1846 built a large frame hotel on the corner of Walnut and Thompson streets (Runshe house, 200 south Walnut) which for a number of years was the principle place of public entertainment in the town. The Galt House was built in the 1840's by Joseph Hagerman who ran it several years. Mrs. Armstrong later was proprietor. The Central Hotel, leading house in the town in the 1880's was built a number of years ago by J. L. Toner who originally designed it for a business house. It is a large three-story brick structure near the depot on Main Cross and Holland. Others running the hotel were Joseph Cox, Mr. Strahmier, M. R. Coleman, John Beal. There was another rooming house on the north side of Ward street west of the railroad about 1845. The Cassett House was behind Danner's where the Post Office is now.

In the stage coach era a tavern and hostelry were on Main Cross west of Main street at the old Chupp property (Donut Shop) which was a stage coach stop.

1913 flood with water over road





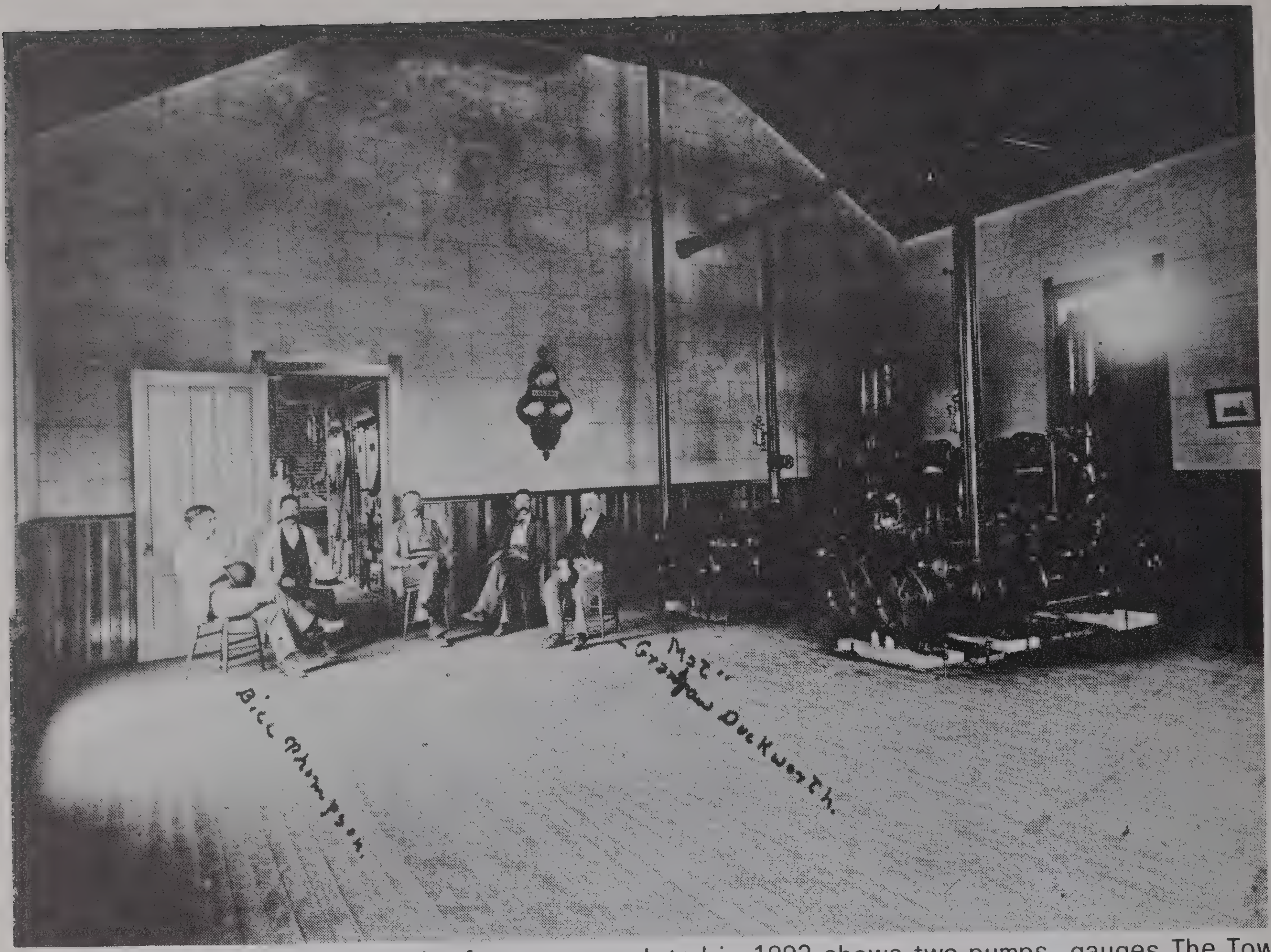
Railroad wreck at bridge in 1921

The 1913 flood was the most devastating of any flood in the history of Blue River. A nine-inch rain fell over a 24-hour period, sent the waters on a rampage. Robert Workman in his ''Blue River Heritage'' stated the Cutsinger grade washed out, sending an extra surge of water into the basin below. The river came down the railroad right of way into Edinburg as far as Center Cross street when the grade across the Thompson Mill gave way, thereby saving the town of Edinburg from flooding. After the road grading at the mill gave way, the river ran so swiftly that the interurban bridge washed out. The frame house west of the dam on the south side of the road, James Stott residence, was washed off its foundation and settled awry.

One of the worst wrecks of the history of the railroad around Edinburg occurred Saturday night, Sept 17, 1922 when the northbound Pennsylvania train plunged through the bridge over Blue River, half mile north of Edinburg. Local people flocked to the scene of the wreck and assisted in removing the engineer who was pinned in his cab, his head barely above water. He was cut loose and then taken to the office of Drs. Middleton and Price where he died some time later.

The engine reached the middle pier when the bridge gave way and the engine and mail car plunged into the water. The smoker and the baggage cars were hanging over the abutment of the bridge but passengers were not seriously injured. Ed Olmstead and Albert Graham were in a boat fishing just east of the bridge when the wreck occurred, were eye witnesses and first to reach the cab of the engine and assist in removing the engineer from his cab.

The bridge was constructed in 1892. It was estimated that at least 15 thousand people viewed the wreck Sunday with thousands of cars bringing sightseers from all parts of the state.


Bill Thompson.
"Mat" Grandpa Duckworth.

New waterworks plant, north of town, completed in 1893 shows two pumps, gauges. The Town board is shown, two of them identified, to left, Bill Thompson, and right, Mat Duckworth, president of board. Later electric generators were added for the electric plant.

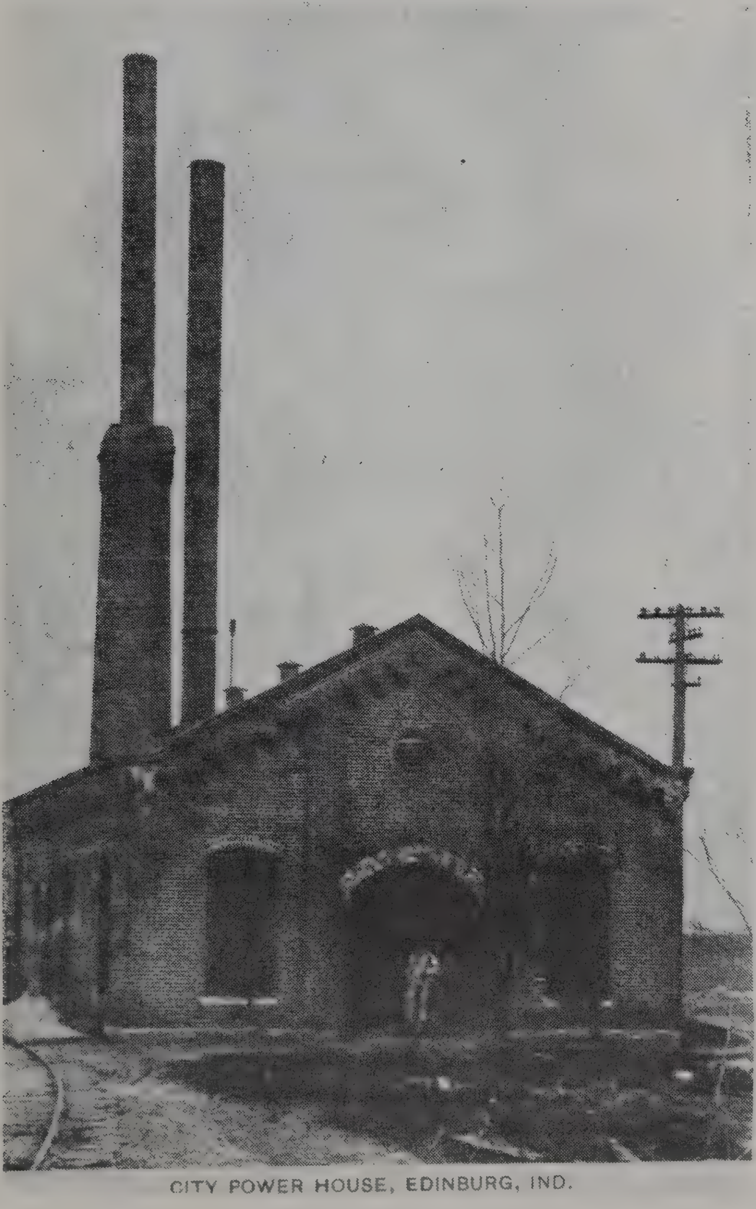
Removing snow from Main Cross St., 1914, Dr. Smith home in background

INCORPORATION OF TOWN

In 1853 the town of Edinburg was incorporated at the September term of Johnson Circuit Court. An effort to incorporate was made many years prior to this. First officers were: Jesse Coleman, marshal; Otto Lyman, clerk; John Hart, treas.; Isaac Keeley, John DeHart, and Luther Payne and two others, trustees (What! five-member board in 1853). Dr. Keeley was the first president of the board but did not complete his term. Succeeded by Faro Huff.

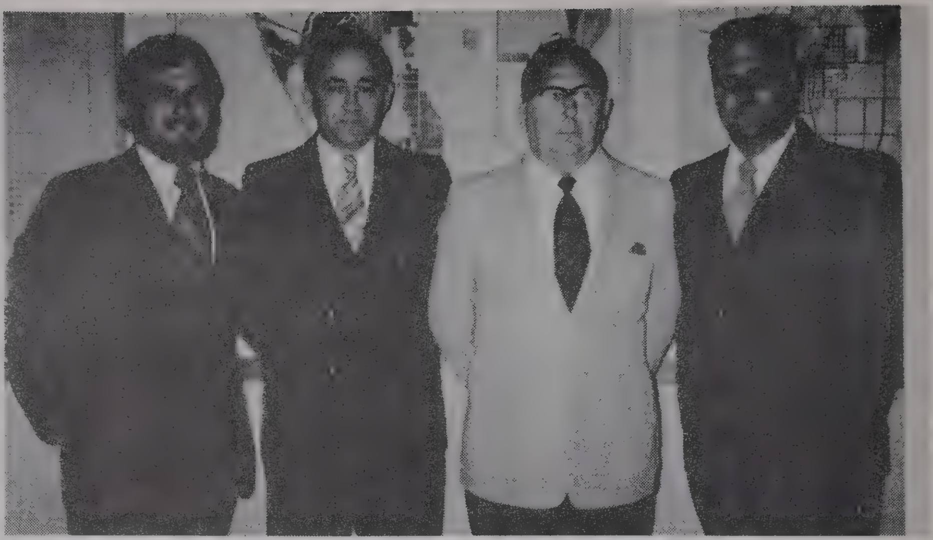
Edinburg was the only town in the county owning its own waterworks and electric light plant says Elba Branigin in his History of Johnson County written in 1913. Edinburg's first storage for water was built on top of the hill on the west side of town in 1893. The standpipe is still standing. 100 yr. lease of site expires in 1989.

Police Station and jail door to right
North of Courier bldg.



CITY POWER HOUSE, EDINBURG, IND.

Work was started on a town water plant in 1889 and finished and dedicated in 1893. The plant stood in a hollow north of Edinburg on the east side of the railroad between the railroad and the old Morgan Packing company. The first electric plant was located in the pump room of the water plant. An ordinance authorized the building of an electric plant in 1892. Street lights were installed in 1898 or 1889. Before that the lights were lighted by kerosene and the town had lamplighters. Arc lamps first were suspended by wire across streets between two poles. John Roth was lineman. The old plant was abandoned in 1928 and a new town hall and light plant were built at the present location on south Holland street. At the same time voltage was changed from 220 direct current to 2400 alternate and two diesel engines were installed in the back of the light plant office. The town also purchased power from Public Service as a standby. About 1934 a third engine was installed. It was in 1945 that the town began buying current regularly from Public Service company. Edinburg has had many light plant superintendents, Sam Haslam, Ray Mutz, Sam Queer, John Drybread, who also was clerk-treasurer, Maurice Pruitt, Fletcher Armstrong, Orville Patterson, Ernest Richards who has been with the town 43 years, and 25 years as superintendent. The present superintendent is Ray Mitchell.



Edinburg Town Board, 1972, left to right, Voris Grindstaff, clerk treasurer, Bobby Lee Smith, John Saberton, president and Paul Mead.

HENDR
DRUGS

Ed Williamson, left, Edinburg Policeman in 1934

NO PARKING POLICE CARS ONLY
NO PARKING POLICE CARS

Town Hall and Police Station today after Fire Department moved to South Walnut Street, Town Marshal, Raymond Burton.

TOWN OFFICERS

Town government records which could be found go back as far as 1879. Some of the early presidents of the Town Board include J. L. Sims, A. C. Thompson, Hargis Pinney, Thomas Valentine, C. L. Clancy, Adolph Dalmbert, M.C. Badger, Nat Mooney, Jacob Mahley, John Kelly, Dillard Deming, Mat Duckworth, George A. Mutz.

After the turn of the century some of the board members were Thomas Stine, Sam Haslam, Jr., W. D. Branigin, Edwin Sterzik, William Butler, Joseph Drybread, John S. Cox, Henry Wertz, J. B. Hibbs, Charles Van Dorn, Robert Porter, C. F. Otto, George R. Mutz, John Sholler, Dolph Farr, Lafayette Wright, Wallace Loucks, W. D. Wells.

More recent board members, David Marthin, Ira Smitha, H. B. Briscoe, Louis Johann, M. E. Dorsey, Preston Schaffer, Wayne Kellams, William P. Schaffer, Robert Workman, Charles Greathouse, Maurice Clark, Walter Fulford, Howard McClintic, Floyd Shafer, Norman Colglazier, A. J. Christopher, Richard Records, Robert E. Smith, Dale Harrod.

The present town board are John Saberton, president, Bob Lee Smith, and Paul Meed.

Clerk-treasurers in the early years were Mat Duckworth, Joe Anderson, Cash Davis, T.J. Threlkeld, William Downs, James Dorsey, Thomas Guffy, Frank Mayfield, E.E. Carvin, J. A. Pruitt, T. J. Stout.

Later clerk-treasurers, John Beal, H. M. Scholler, W. N. Drybread, J. W. Payne, Clarence Porter, Roscoe Wray, Roy Porter, Ida Porter, John Drybread, Bill Fish, Aubrey Callon, Harvey Allison, Clarence DeCoursey, Mrs. Robert Drybread, Mrs. Francis Otto, and the present clerk-treasurer, Voris Grindstaff.

The first fire fighting was done with buckets, the buckets kept for fire brigades at two wells on Main Cross street, one in front of Marilyn's Beauty Shop on west Main Cross and the other in front of Larsen's on Main Cross. Later a hand-operated fire engine which looked like a hand car was purchased. The first fire house was on Holland street on the lot where the City Hall now stands but the building was frame and on the southwest corner next to the alley. A fire company under the direction of Capt. Hartley was organized around 1875.

Later when water lines were laid a wagon was purchased, a one-horse affair, the wagon kept in the livery stable at the site of the old Community Mill east of the Pixy Theatre.

A modern fire engine was purchased by the town in the early 1900's after the coming of the automobile. Now the town has a fire department with 15 volunteer fire fighters and the best of equipment for a town the size of Edinburg. For years Jim Haslam (father of Mrs. Fred Engles and the late Ellis Haslam) was Edinburg Fire Chief. Others were William Gosney, Owen Hardin, Earl Hamilton, Floyd Waltz, and the present Fire Chief, James Breeding.

Paved sidewalks in Edinburg were built around the turn of the century, most of them built by L. A. "Lev" Farr, grandfather of Harold Farr of Edinburg, whose wife was a descendant of the poineer Isaac Collier who made brick and tile near the Thompson Mill and which L. A. Farr purchased.

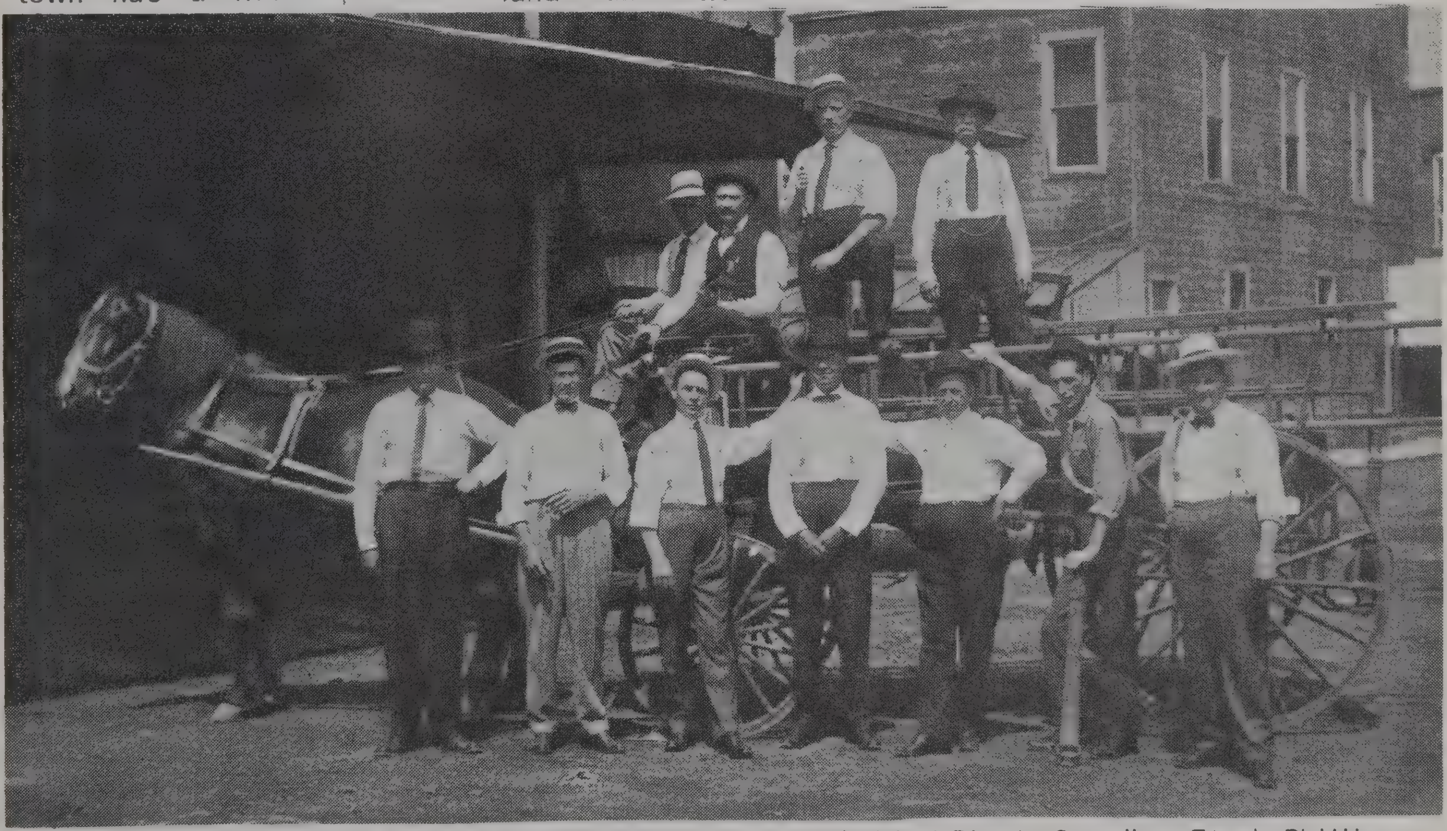
The first hard surface street with curbs and gutters in Edinburg was Main Cross street. The Edinburg Business Women's Club was responsible for the instigation of this work. Other street recently reconstructed with curbs and gutters are Kyle street, Holland and Walnut streets.

TELEPHONE

One of the first businesses in Edinburg after the town was platted (Thompson Mill) on Blue River also was the first to have a telephone. History of the telephone in Edinburg comes from Indiana Bell office at Columbus obtained by Clifford Hamilton.

Not long after Alexander Graham Bell received his patent in 1876, the first telephone instrument appeared in Edinburg. A private line was placed in service between the John A Thompson Mill on Blue River and the Sam Cutsinger and Thompson Flour Mill on the railroad. The second private line was installed between the Henry Maley saw mill, the Maley residence on east Main Cross street (Don Graham home and the railroad depot.

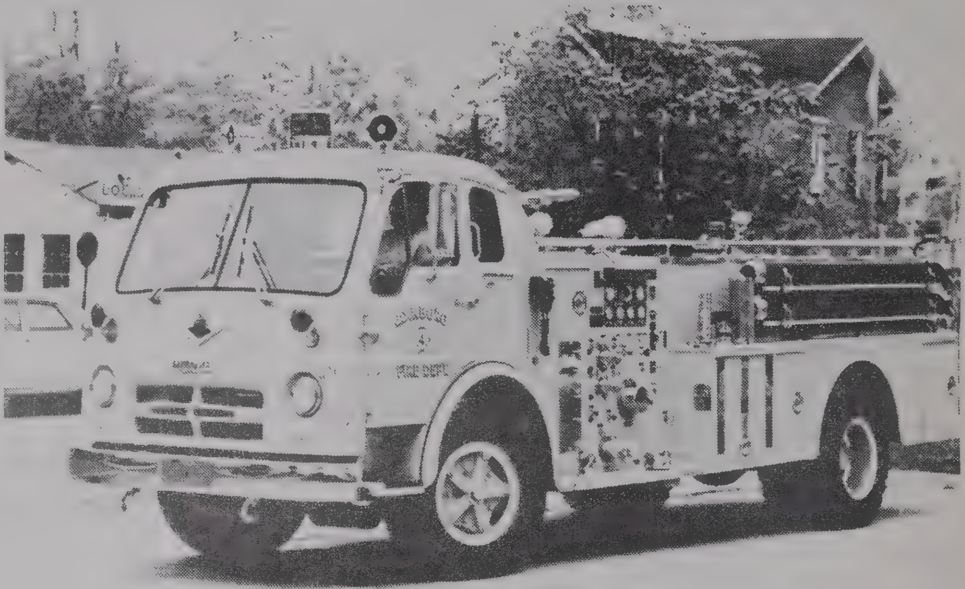
With the need of a telephone system, obvious, the



Fire wagon about 1900 at Turner's Livery Stable (behind Pixy). Standing Frank Phillips, Will Gosney, Sam Haslam, D. Smitha, James Haslam, Sam Sims, Andy Bossmeier. In truck, John Turner, Bee Goodin, Marshal; Charles Van Dorn and Engelbach, standing.

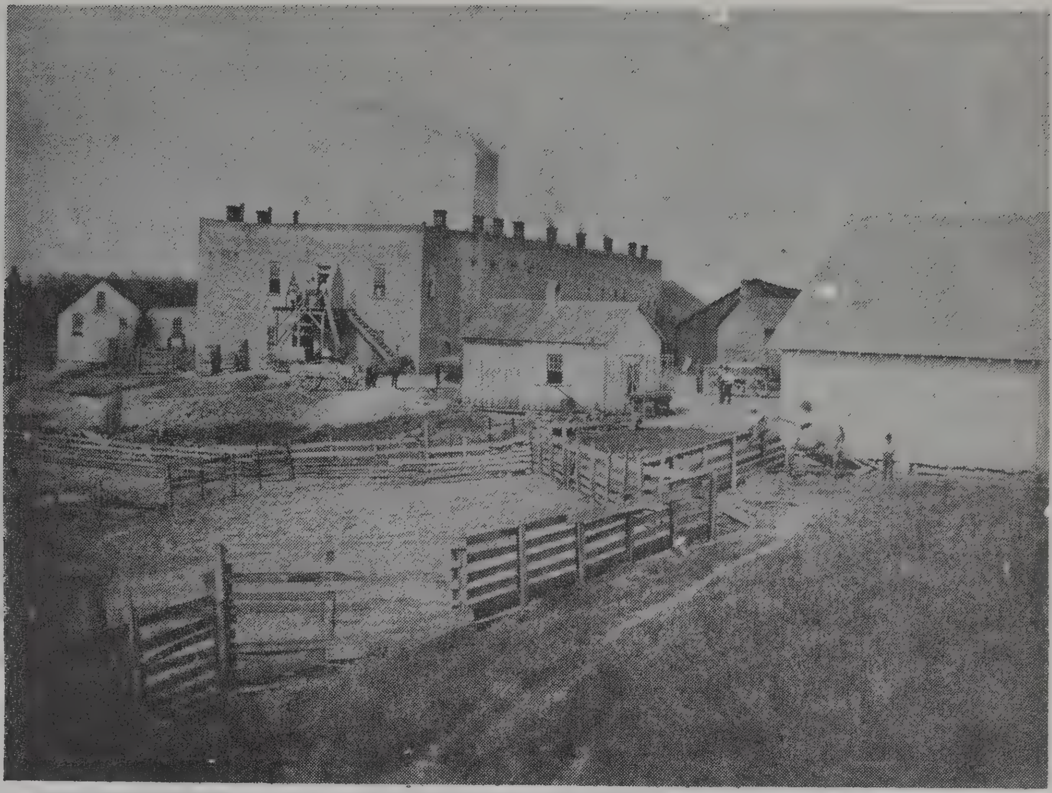
Citizens Telephone Company was organized in 1890 with Augustus Winterberg as president and treasurer. Mr. Winterberg purchased 50 telephones and a 50-line switchboard to start the company rolling. Early operators for the Citiens Telephone were Emma Breeding, Mrs. Hettie Hardin Parsons, Hazel Wirey Alexander, Pauline Weaver and others. The Citizens Company was acquired in 1920 by Indiana Bell Telephone Co. The growth steadily continued and skyrocketed during World War II with the establishing of nearby Camp Atterbury. Chief operators through the years include Mrs. Thomas Alexander, Mrs. Ruth Gray, chief operator during Camp Atterbury days, Mrs. Mabel Short, Mrs. Harold Bruce.

The telephone system now is a part of the Columbus dial system with several of the local operators working at Columbus.



Fire dept. group: Oscar Wertz, Tom Bilby, Rev. Cyrus Herod, present fire chief, James Breeding; Owen Hardin, f.c.; Paul Fisher, Wm. Gosney, f.c.; Floyd Waltz, f.c.; Earl Hamilton, f.c.; Clifford Murphy, Ralph Lemley.

1885



THE STARCH FACTORY

One of the most important industries of Edinburg in the early 1900's was the Union Starch and Refining Co., home of Pennant Syrup, owned by Joseph Irwin of Columbus. This was the successor to the Blue River Starch Works organized by Samuel Cutsinger in 1868 and was Edinburg's largest place of employment in its day having 400 workers in the great days around 1913-1920 with offices in Columbus and plants at Edinburg and Granite City, Ill. Branigin's History of Johnson County states it was the largest manufacturing plant in the community.

The Starch factory was opened here in 1903 but its history begins in 1898. How the starch factory came about more or less as a second thought, how Pennant was chosen as the tradename for its table syrup, old names associated with company, are a fascinating story.

The Union Starch had its beginning in 1903 with the purchase of the old starch plant no longer in operation. This was the Blue River Starch Works established by a stock company composed of Samuel Cutsinger, M.C. Tilford, E.K. Horsford, Joseph Fisher. This plant itself was a mammoth enterprise. After a fire in 1885 the present main brick building two stories high was constructed beside a large warehouse, corn cribs, sheds, and an office separate from the factory. By 1888 Samuel Cutsinger, great-grandfather of Dale Mutz, was the only one of the original stockholders.

To get back to the Union Starch. In 1898 Joseph I. Irwin and Will G. Irwin of Columbus had the idea of developing a traction line or interurban from the county seats to Indianapolis.

By December 31, 1900 the line had been built from Greenwood to Indianapolis. Later it was extended to Franklin, and by 1903 through Edinburg to Columbus.

As the line was being built Mr. Irwin noticed that the old Starch plant in Edinburg, which was not in operation had a power plant and could be used to provide a part of the electric current for the traction line south.

He arranged to purchase the old starch plant

Shortly after the purchase Messrs. Irwin concluded they had a starch factory pretty much in tact and began to look around to see what they could do about it.

They contacted Clint Scholler, his father, Henry Scholler, had worked in the plant and knew how to make starch.

A partnership was formed in 1903 by Joseph I. Irwin, William G. Irwin of Columbus, Harold Hughes, Edinburg grocer, and Joseph E. Irwin of Irwin Bank of Columbus.

In 1904 the first corn was ground. The daily average soon grew to 800 bushels. All the output was manufactured into starch. Edinburg became a good corn market for farmers within a radius of 25 miles.

The farmers not only sold their corn at the starch factory but hauled away the glucose for feed. Glutten Feeds was one of the companies biggest products.

A short time later Louis P. Bauer had the knowledge to produce glucose and had a new idea for a water-white corn syrup. The company at Edinburg produced and marketed table syrups soon after they began manufacturing glucose.

How the company came upon, developed and secured the trademark Pennant in 1908 is a story in itself. Hugh Th. Miller who later became president secured the name. Several officers met to select a name for their syrup in the old frame building which later became the carpenter shop. The World Series was being played that day and naturally the discussion of whether the winner of the Pennant for the National League or the American League would win. Mr. Miller suggested Pennant for the name, and Pennant syrup was born.

In 1907 Raymond Daily become superintendent of the plant staying here until 1910 when he accepted a position with American Maize in Chicago. He introduced his friend, Philo King, whom he had known in a plant in Peoria and Mr. King became superintendent.

Jan. 5, 1912, the partnership was dissolved and the firm incorporated with the name Union Starch and Refining Company at Edinburg. The five incorporators were William G. Irwin, his sister, Mrs. Linnie Sweeney, Hugh Th. Miller, father of Irwin Miller, Harold Hughes and Joseph E. Irwin. Will Irwin was the first president.

It is interesting to know this little plant in Edinburg with P. R. King as superintendent helped to make contributions in the early days of the starch and syrup business. The main building was extended to four stories and other expansion made.

General offices were at Edinburg from the beginning until the main office was moved to Columbus in 1922.

October 20, 1922, the company purchased a plant at Granite City, Ill., later in 1922 Mr. King and Joe Irwin went to Granite City to prepare for operations there. Clint Scholler was left in charge at Edinburg.

In February, 1923, the grinding started at Granite City and the day before the grinding was discontinued at Edinburg never to be resumed.

It was a stunning blow to the town. Only a few families moved to Granite City, but soon those who had worked there found employment elsewhere. At about the same time, Edinburg's veneer mills were growing fast.

For 24 years the plant did not operate. In 1947 the plant was rehabilitated and a portion of the factory used to produce packaged products Marshmal-O-Creme and Reddi Starch, and mixed syrups again giving employment for the town. Carl Allison came to Edinburg as plant superintendent.

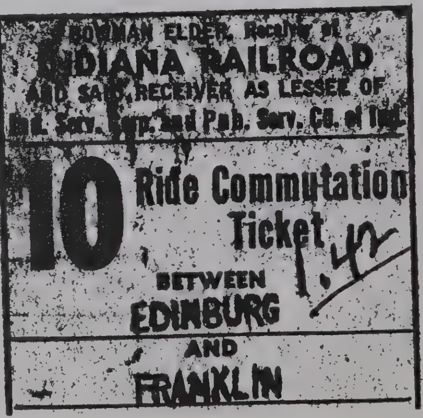
In Sept. 1964 the Union Starch and Refining Company made expansions of over one million dollars here to manufacture cyclmate, used in artifical sweetening such as diet colas.

In 1966 the company was sold to Miles Laboratories Inc. Operations at the Edinburg and Granite City plants continued the same until the plants were ordered by the government not to manufacture cyclmates in 1969. The Edinburg plant has been closed since then and this spring the Granite City plant was closed by Miles Laboratories thus bringing to a close the story of the Union Starch and Refining Company.

Only a few names were mentioned as the material was gathered about the starch factory. Some of them were: Clint Scholler, superintendent, Omer Fulp of Taylorsville, the night superintendent. Henry Pruitt was the chemist, Otis Freese, traffic and sales manager; other names mentioned, Andy Robertson, Gilford Freese, Arthur Patterson, and Joe Brown, engineers, Homer Hubbard, William Beever, Alf Mitchell, Mrs. Henry Pruitt, stenographer, Joseph Sconce, foreman, Mamie Cotton, Seward Hutchison, Mayher Rubush, Ray Gundrum, Ben Sutton, Al Morgan, Frank Phillips, Roscoe Mosier, Ralph Sadler. All of them old Edinburg names. Two employees were at the Starch Factory for 40 years, Ray Gundrum and Hector Swinehart.

IRWIN PARK

Many residents today do not know the origin of the name of our town park. The Irwin family gave the area around the river 8 acres, for a park to the town in about 1938 and it was named after the Irwin family. Later the area to the south for the football field was given by the family.



BOWMAN ELDER, Receiver of
INDIANA RAILROAD
AND SAID RECEIVER AS LESSEE OF
Ind. Serv. Corp. and Pub. Serv. Co. of Ind.

10 Ride Commutation Ticket

1.42

BETWEEN
EDINBURG
AND
FRANKLIN

If You Want

A Lunch or a Square Meal go to

J. C. WARNER'S

RESTAURANT,

SOUTH HOLLAND STREET,

Edinburg, : Indiana.

BOARDING

By the Day, Week or Meal at Reasonable Rates.

Ice Cream Saloon Now Open.

☞In connection with my Restaurant and Ice Cream business I carry a full line of the best brands of Cigars and Tobaccos, fine Candies, Nuts, etc., and all kinds of Fruits when in season.

I feel thankful for past liberal patronage and solicit a continuance of the same. Call and see me.

MILLERS.

Edinburg City Mills.

JOHN A. THOMPSON & CO.,

Manufacturers of

"Thompson's Best," patent process.
"Silver Spray," new process.
"City Mills,"
—AND—
Other Choice Brands of Flour.

Highest Market Price
—PAID FOR—
WHEAT!

OFFICE—John A. Thompson's Bank.

EDINBURG, - - - INDIANA

BAKERY.

Andy Bossmeier,
(Successor to Wm. Stine,)
—PROPRIETOR—

UNION BAKERY,

Corner Holland and Thompson Sts.,

EDINBURG, - - IND.

I Keep Constantly on Hand

Fresh Bread and Cakes,

Also a first-class stock of

CIGARS, TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONS.

☞Your Patronage Respectfully Solicited.

The Edinburg Courier.

E. M. HARDY,
EDITOR, PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR.

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1884.

JOHN A. THOMPSON
BANKER.
EDINBURG, INDIANA.

Gen'l Banking Business Transacted

C. W. SNOW. A. C. DEUPREE

Snow & Deupree,

Attorneys at Law,

Notaries Public, General Collectors and

DEPUTY PROSECUTORS.

OFFICE—In Snow's building on Walnut street,
21jne83 EDINBURG, IND

T. D. VANDORN,

Carriage and Wagon Maker,

Corner Walnut and Thompson St.s,

EDINBURG, - - - - - IND

☞ Thankful for past favors, would solicit the further patronage of the public. My friends will do well to call on me for their Wagons, Plows, Harrows, Reapers and Mowers. Also all kinds of Repairing done to Farming Implements and Carriages. june'82t

---

J. T. BURTON,

DENTIST.

Main-Cross Street,

EDINBURG, - - - INDIANA.

OFFICE—Front room on second floor, over Chas. Winterberg's, west of Deming & Howell's.

S. P. OYLER. W. A. JOHNSON

OYLER & JOHNSON,

ATTORNEYS at LAW

OFFICE OVER THE NATIONAL BANK.

FRANKLIN, - - - IND
37-tf

N. N. SIMS,

BUTCHER

—AND DEALER IN—

LIVE STOCK!

☞Meat Market on West Main-Cross Street,

Edinburg, - - Ind

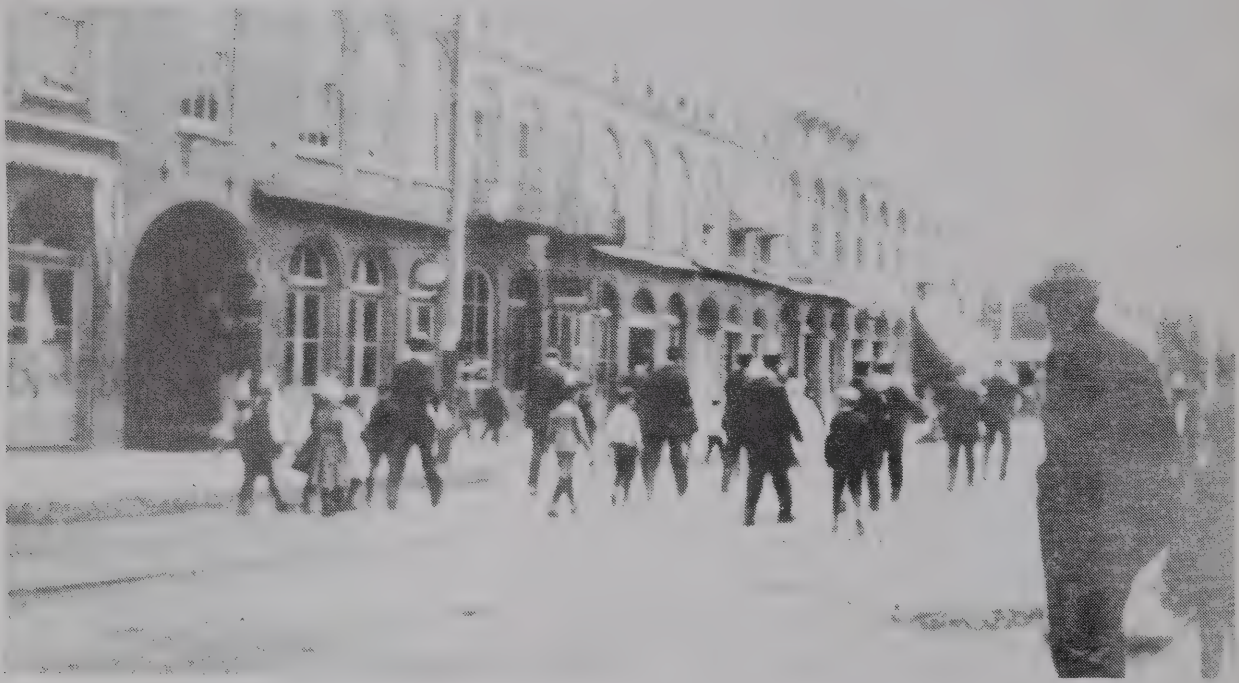
We keep constantly on hand a large and well assorted supply of fresh and cured meats, comprising

Beef, Pork, Mutton, Veal and Lamb

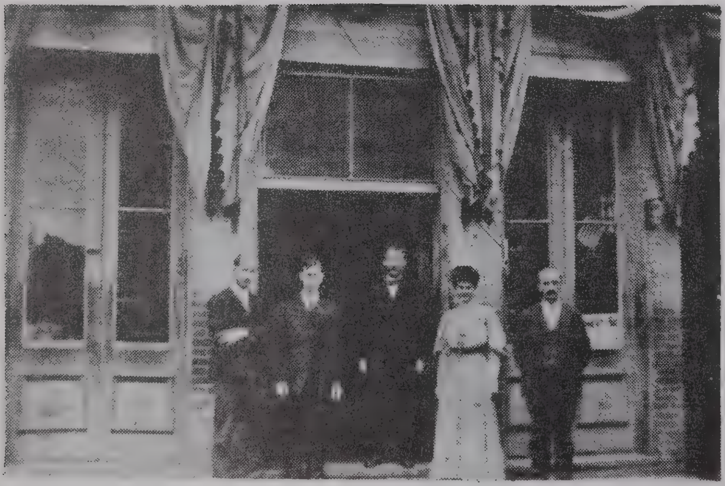
IN SEASON!

DOWNTOWN EDINBURG

Most of the downtown section of Main Cross street had been built by 1879 with common side walls, two stories high, the fronts designed similarly. Brick was burned at the Pruitt farms. The last buildings constructed in the downtown area are thought to be from Delcie's to Barretts Jewelry with permission from the Town Board for an arch alley so the second floor could be extended to make a large community hall. It was called Pruitt Hall.



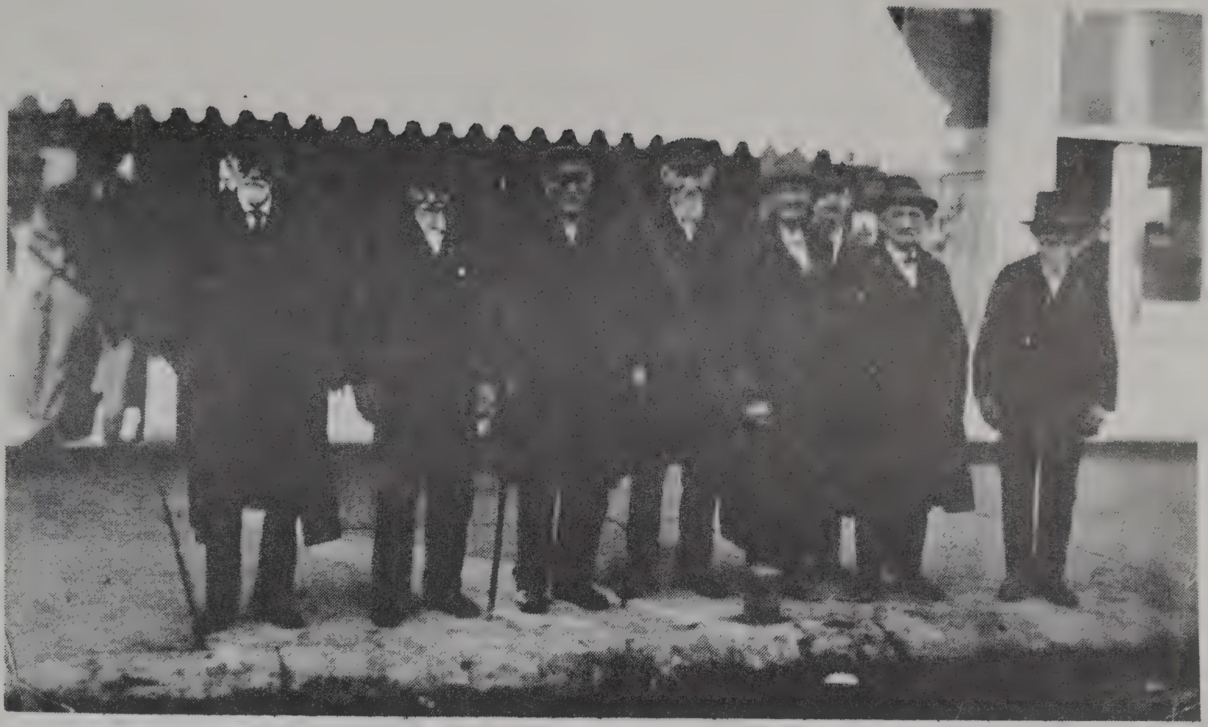
The Famous Arch Alley (west of Barretts today)



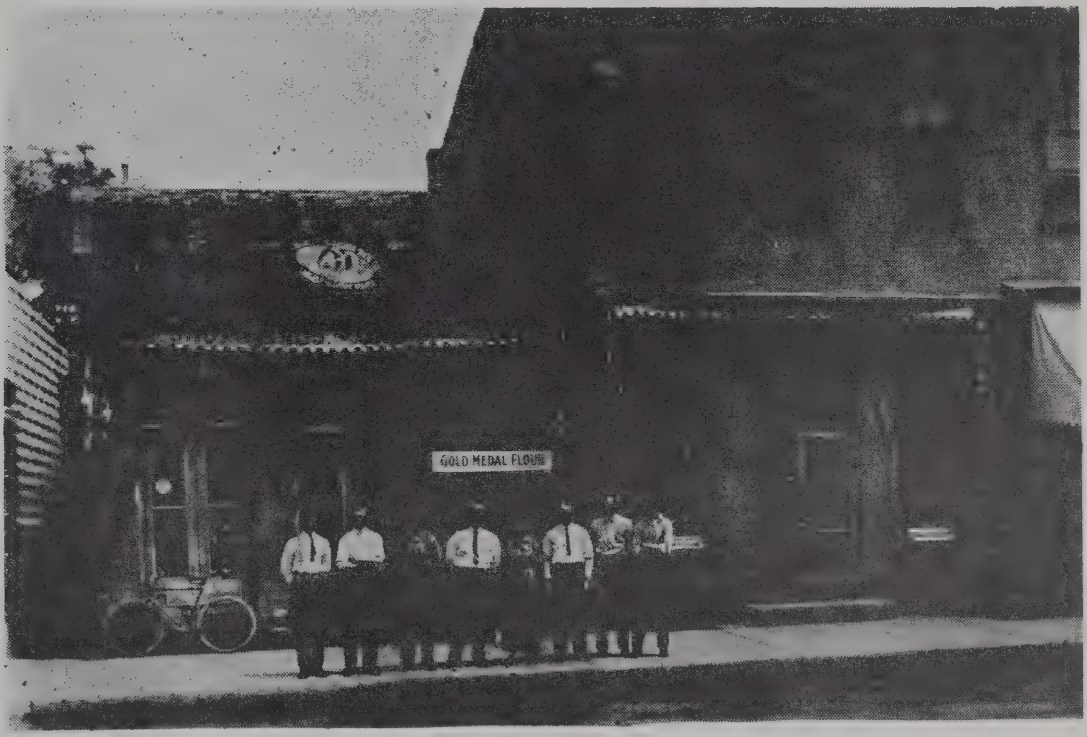
J. M. Carvin Grocery, N. E, corner Walnut & Main Cross. John Richards, Will Richards, Mr. Carvin, Mrs. Charles Davis, Jerome Armstrong.

MERCHANTS OF EARLIER DAYS

AFTER 1900 - 1912
Mutz and Lynch Drugs
A.W. Pruitt Harness & Implements
Goodin Restaurant
Chupp Brothers
J.J. Hyde Grocery
A. Bossmeier Druggist
B.A. Brown & Sons Grocery
Mc's 5 & 10¢ Store
Chas. Otto Tailoring
Taylor and Roth Drugs
Haslam Bros. Barbershop
Mulkins Grocery
Richards & Miller Grocery
Hagerman & Waltz Ins.



Identified as follows: 1. A. W. Winterburg 2. Mr. Stilley 3. ? 4. Young 5. ? 6. Mathis 7. Claiborne Williams 8. Joseph (Dode) Drybread.



To left: Frank Chupp, Myrtle Harrison Green is the lady clerk.

The Comet
New Nickelo
Elmer Freese Plumbing
1918
John Talbert
Mutz Brother Druggist
J.J. Anderson - Coal
Sanders & Royce
L.N. Records & Son, Coal
A.W. Pruitt $ Son, Motor Cars
Wells Meat Market

Majestic Theater
Imperial Cafe - W.H. Porter
David R. Webb - Grain
Broderick and Park
Long & Ralston
Blue River Coal, Geo. Wells & Geo. Owens
J.F. Bowman
Wurtz Bakery
Martin Cutsinger - Grain
Craig & McIlvain Garage
Dunlap & Co.

In the 1920's new names and businesses appear.

Julian Auxier, Mechanic
A.W. Pruitt Garage
W.W. Fordyce, Groceries
Ralph Kennedy - Plbg.
O.U. Mutz - Hdwe.
Leibert Miner
Pierce Hardware
Lyric
J.L. Moore, Clothing
Mallory & Larsen - Tires
Amos Loader Co.
The New Oakland
Edinburg Motor Co. Claude & Newt
Dr. A.S. Willard
Thompson State Bank
Woodard Apples
Stainbrook Hardware
Briscoe's Grocery
Mutz Drug Store
Danner Bros.
The Woman's Shop
Learman Bargain Store
Handlev Garage
J.R. Broderick
Roscoe Barretts Radio Tubes
The Park Store
Taylor's Drug Store
Ladies Hat Shop
Caldwell Farms
Driftwood Golf Course
Kabrick Filling Station
Coy's Filling Station
Colvin Filling Station
Temple Theatre
Swaim & Breeding
Kime's Store

As the 1930's arrive many remember the merchants

Cutsinger Elevator
Farmers Supply
Mutz Funeral Home
Gerald Lotz
Edinburg State Bank
Playhouse Theatre
Schaffer Corner Store
J.B. Morris Real Estate
Farr & Gosney Morticians

In front of Thompson Dry Goods - W. H. Thompson, ?, Florence Kramer, Margaret Thompson, Charley Thompson, Maude Park, ?.

B.G. Breeding, refrigerators
Warner Cleaners
Haslam Town Tavern

The Tasty Shop
Chic's Beer Garden
Edinburg Cleaner - T. Swinehart

Mason's Cafe
I.J. Waltz, Ins.
Hendrick's Drugs
Kellams Auto Co.

New Fall Styles in

EGLIPSE FLANNELLS

for

Ladies' Waists.

Thompson Dry Goods Co.

The 1940's
Branigin Cone & Skillet
Pixy Theatre
Edinburg Motors Boyd Lemley
James L. Records
Edinburg Plumbing & Heating
Edinburg Furniture
Curtis & Earl Hamilton

Brown Grocery
Mae's Laundry

Brick Store - Floyd Waltz
Main Drugs
LaBrec
Wray's Service Station
Kellams Insurance
Jesse Ellis Insurance
Bueche Pontiac

The 1950's and 1960's
Additional merchants were

Don Piatt's Hardware & Sports
Barrett's Frigidaire & TV
Kime's Jewelry and Men's Store
Kohlmeier Drug Store
Scofield & Douthit Furniture
W & W Cleaners
Parson's Pontiac
Alter Chevrolet
Waltz Grocery
Coleman T.V.
Leonard Ford Sales

J. C. FREESE,

DEALER IN

Fancy and Staple Groceries, Queensware, Cutlery, Silverware, Etc.,

CIGARS AND TOBACCO.

Edinburg, Ind., June 14 1884

Pate I. Prin Trea Logan Encam

BEGINNING OF VENEER COMPANIES

The year 1895 marks the beginning of the veneer business in Edinburg starting at the David R. Webb Company location. At that time the mill was known as the Muloda Veneer Co. owned by Roscoe Mutz, A. J. Loughery, and Cash Davis. All had homes on south Walnut street, Mr. Mutz at 304 where Harry Gharst lives, the Lougherys at 305 and Cash Davis at 307 on the corner of Perry and Walnut. In 1909 the veneer company was purchased by David R. Webb who had been a hardware merchant in Edinburg for years in the location of the old O.U. Mutz Hardware, (Briscoe Grocery, Stine Grocery, and Larsen's) and for a time in partners with Mr. Mutz. The new veneer company dealt mostly at that time in oak veneer and shipped much of the veneer to Grand Rapids. After the death of Mr. Webb in 1914 the David R. Webb Co. sole owners were P. R. Brodbeck and Ruth Webb Brodbeck. Mr. Webb had had an elevator on the Webb plant site which he enlarged and made into the veneer plant. Fayette Wright, father of Mrs. Lawrence Stilabower was a long time employee at the elevator beginning in 1907. A second elevator was built on the railroad and facing Thompson street and it burned about 1915.

In the 1940's David R. Webb was sold to the Rutland Corporation Rutland, Vt., and Michael Joelson was named chief executive officer of the Webb Division of the company. In Jan. 1969 Webb became a Division of the Walter Reade organization with John Grunwald vicepresent and general manager of the division.

The company is one of the country's leading manufacturers and principal suppliers of high quality wood veneers for furniture, home/office serving the furniture and plywood industries. Showrooms are located in Edinburg, High Point, N. C. and New York City.

Mrs. Russell Stott was a bookkeeper at Webb's for many years.

Between 1908-1910 the W. T. Thompson Veneer Co., was started by Will Thompson (son of John A. and Mary Cutsinger Thompson on the hill) and married to Olive Wade whose home was at 501 East Main Cross (Ross Buck home). The veneer mill was located on the west side of the railroad from Perry Street down the railroad to Ward. A brother, Ed Thompson, and Roscoe Cutsinger worked at the plant. In 1921 Grafton Johnson of Greenwood bought the plant and carried the Thompson name. Mary Woodsides began her career as a bookkeeper with the plant. The plant was operated by Harry, Teal, Tom and Wilford Hill until 1927 when the Amos Lumber Company bought the W. T. Thompson Veneer plant.

It was in Dec. 1912, that Henry Wertz, father of Mrs. Roy Amos, and Roy Amos embarked on a business venture as the Wertz and Amos Lumber Company and were joined one month later in Jan., 1913, by Roy's father, J. O. Amos The three bought the Henry Maley Sawmill on south Kyle street and continued in operation until 1914 when it was dissolved. Within a year, however, this time with Dr. R. C. Mayhall and Walter O'Neal, Jack and Roy Amos, all of Edinburg a new company was formed and the manufacture of handles was added to the regular saw mill business and known as the AMO Handle Co. This company carried on until 1916 when the Mayhall and O'Neal interests were purchased by Jack and Roy Amos and the name changed to the Amos Lumber Co.

Through the first World War and early 20's the Amos Lumber Co. continued to manufacture lumber. In 1922 Jack and Roy Amos formed an additional partnership with Jesse May and Chris Shepherd. This second company did custom cutting and manufactured veneer at the David R. Webb plant. The second company continued until 1925 when the Amos Lumber Co. constructed the sawmill at its present site, the center of

Amos-Thompson Corporation, property on south Kyle street. Until 1927 the manufacture of veneer, was still rather a side line. But in 1927 the company bought the W. T. Thompson Veneer plant and Daniel Wertz of Evansville entered the company as a stockholder.

Then in 1929 the Amos Lumber Company and W. T. Thompson Veneer Company were consolidated to form the Amos-Thompson Corporation as it is known today. Jack Amos was president, Daniel Wertz, vice; and Roy Amos, sec.-treas. In 1939 Amos Molded Plastics was added to the manufacturing activities of the firm. In the early days of the company Julian Kazimier, one of the six pioneers in the plastics industry in the nation, came to Amos and with the aid of the Amos staff made Amos a top producing plant.

After the death of Jack Amos and Daniel Wertz in 1944, Roy Amos became president of the company, Bice Roth, vice president, and Dale Amos secretary-treasurer. Other board members were Claude Wertz and William Partington of Evansville. In 1956 Roy Amos was elected chairman of the board of directors and his son, Dale Amos, succeeded his father as president and general manager. The plant became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the N. L. Industries in 1969. Present officers are: Arthur A. Ryan of Columbus, General Manager; Bice A. Roth, of Edinburg, president of the company and manager of the woodworking division; Tom Reiffenberg, manager of the plastics division; Robert L. Miller, Columbus, corporate personnel director A. A. Pfaff of Indianapolis, corporate treasurer.

The woodworking division of Amos-Thompson manufactures walnut, streamline oak, cherry, maghogany, and other foreign woods into veneer and lumber for furniture, plywood, and interior decorating to all parts of the world. The plastics chief products are computer parts, TV cabinets, automotive grills, refrigerator parts, rotocast tanks, and small items such as coffee pots and urns.

HILL BROTHERS VENEER

The third large veneer plant in Edinburg is that of Hill Brothers Veneer Co., now a div- of Hammermill Paper Corporation, which had its beginning in 1925 when Harry D. Hill and Howard T. Hill organized a company. The men both had worked for the W. T. Thompson Veneer, did not have a mill but cut veneer at the David R. Webb Co. (custom cutting). Hill Brothers in 1932 received the first permit to sell beer in Johnson County. They operated this business until 1945. In the 1930's all beer in 13 counties was distributed by Hill Brothers.

In 1936-1937 a mill was built at the location where the mill now is on Shelby Avenue.

During the Depression the veneer business was almost at a standstill. Hill Brothers operated a gravel business east of Edinburg and also operated a hotel in Hot Spring, Ark. They also owned and operated two large farms, one at Lawrenceville, Ill., and one in Sullivan Co., Ind. These farms later were sold.

About 1937 Jack Hill, son of Harry Hill, entered the business. The three were active in the veneer business until 1944 when Howard Hill was killed. L. E. Newton who had been with the company from 1925-1931 entered the business and it was operated as a partnership until 1947, when it was incorporated. In 1950 George Demuth bought stock in Hill Brothers Veneer and became active in operating the business. Harry Hill died in 1959. The above three remained active in the business until Nov. 1, 1967, when it was sold to Hammermill Paper Co., of Erie Pa. Jack Hill retiring from the business at that time and later dying in 1970. L. E. Newton remained with the company six months and Mr. Demuth became division manager which position he retained two and a half years. Albert B. Cox of Edinburg now is Division Manager. Katherine Broderick has been bookkeeper at Hills through the years.

The company cuts walnut principally now but during the 1940's and 1950's cut a large amount of white oak, cherry, maple and other species were cut also.

HILL BROS.
VENEER CO.
HAMMERMILL PAPER CO.

OTHERS

Reference is made in the Branigin History of Johnson County that Martin Cutsinger, moving from a farm into Edinburg in 1890 first entered into the starch business with his father, Sam Cutsinger, until 1893 when he bought interest in the grain and veneer business, being in business first with John A. Thompson and later with D. R Webb. Again Martin Cutsinger was associated in the veneer business owning the Diamond Veneer Co. and for a time, until 1913, was with W. T. Thompson.

RIEGEL - REXHAM CORP.

Riegel Paper Corporation, a progressive company in Edinburg for 15 years of continuous operation, became Rexham Corporation here in Jan., 1972.

The large plant north of Edinburg on Highway 31 is a direct result of Amos Molded Plastics' venture into the field of polyethylene plastics packaging. It was one of the first plants which had flexographic printing press in-line with a polyethylene extruder.

The large brick building was constructed for Amos-Packaging in 1956. After a year of operation, Riegel Paper Corporation of New Jersey was in an era of expansion and obtained Amos Packaging in May, 1957. Riegel common stock was accepted for the building and equipment.

Since that time the company has expanded four times, has six times the original square footage, and is still expanding. Products include all types of printed packaging, wax liners for cereals, cake mixes, jellos and packaging for the snack food industry.

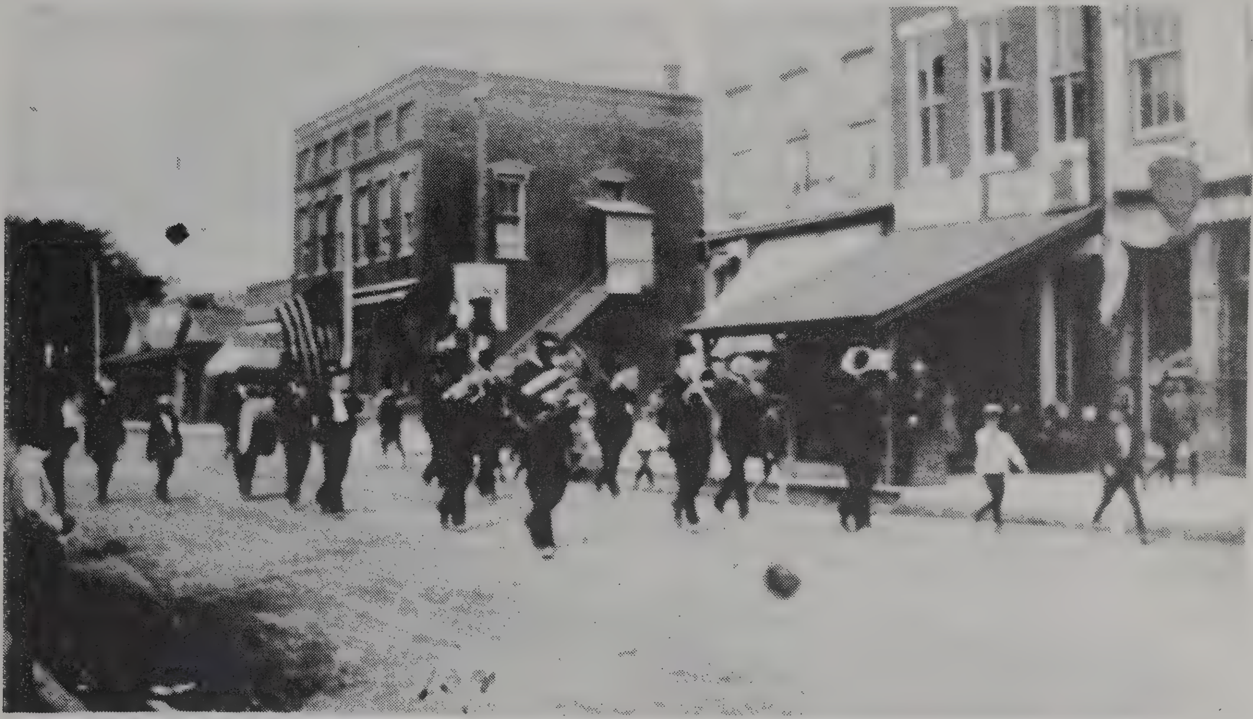
The new name of Rexham for the Riegel plant this January was a result of a spin-off of two divisions of Riegel prior to its merger with Federated Paper Board Co. Plant manager in Edinburg is Richard D. Lewis. Ernest Kissimon of Edinburg has been with the plant since Riegel came to Edinburg and is personnel and industrial public relations director. Russell Powlen, plant engineer, has the longest service, having been with Amos Packaging since its beginning.

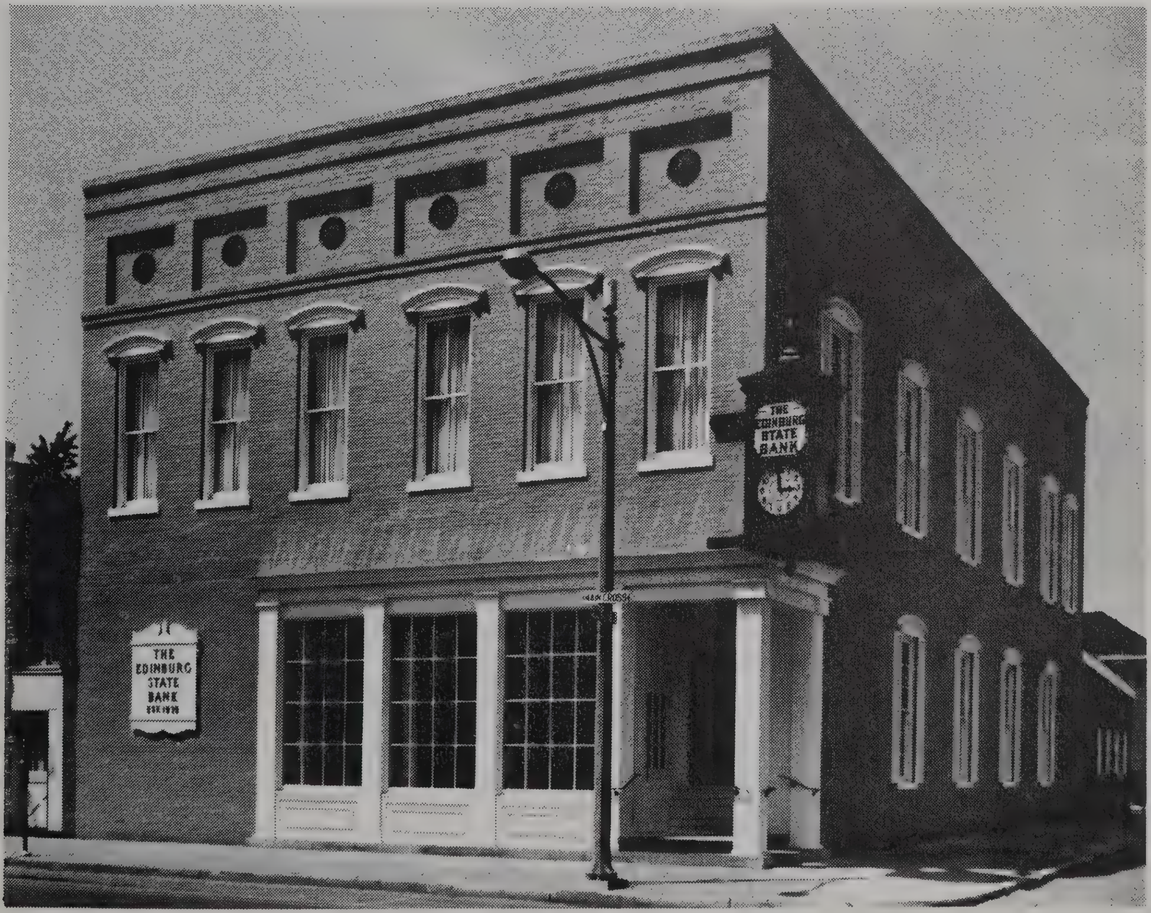
BANKING

The first bank in Edinburg was a private institution, established in 1868 by Harvey Lewis of Edinburg and was known as the Lewis Bank. Mr. Lewis began the business with a small capital, and being obliged to do the greater part of the banking on deposits for which he paid a high rate on interest, met with financial reverses and was soon compelled to relinquish the undertaking. He closed the door of his bank in 1872. Mr. Lewis was an Edinburg merchant, with interests in several businesses and was civic-minded from the beginning, being a young man when in 1869 he was on the school board when the first school on the hill was built. His father lived in Edinburg before him and was an early Methodist. His home was on south Kyle street where the James Records now live.

In 1874 John A. Thompson who owned the Thompson Mill and had his splendid residence on the hill, engaged in the banking business in Edinburg and until his death in 1886, was successful. After his death, the bank suffered reverses and was closed during the Cleveland panic of 1890. In Sept. 1896 creditors were paid off in full; and it has been told, through the efforts of his widow, Mollie Cutsinger Thompson. Martin Cutsinger was appointed receiver by the Johnson Circuit Court to finish the bank's affairs. The bank was located on south side of Main Cross between Main and Walnut on the alley, now a lot, where the business building burned in 1968.

Alfred C. Thompson, great grandfather of Mrs. Esquline Bruce of Edinburg, who had been in the mercantile business from 1836, in 1870 transferred his store to his son, Edward, and engaged in banking under the firm name of A.C. Thompson and Co. In 1871 the three-story bank building on the present bank site was built, Edward joined the firm and in 1875 John A. Thompson, another son, was admitted to the


Looking west toward bank bldg. at upper right. Notice outside stairs.



Edinburg State Bank, 1972

firm, and it became A.C. Thompson and Sons. On the death of A.C. Thompson in 1889, the business was continued by the same name by the brothers. On Dec. 19, 1902, E.C. Thompson died, his interest passing to his brother, John A. Thompson and sister, Hannah E. McEwen. The bank was reorganized July 1, 1905, under the name of The Thompson State Bank, John A. Thompson, president; A.J. Loughery, cashier, Frank Dale Thompson, a son, assistant cashier. This John A. Thompson, cousin to John A. Thompson on the hill, built a spacious mansion at 504 South Walnut street (presently the home of Mr. and Mrs. William McFadden and earlier the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Amos). In the old bank A.J. Loughery served as cashier from 1895 to 1921 when he retired being succeeded by D.K. Stewart, I.J. Waltz assistant cashier, Edith Hyde Johann assistant cashier. In 1921 the Thompson Bank was chartered as The Thompson State Bank. At the death of John A. Thompson in 1921, Frank Dale Thompson became president. Directors were Martin Cutsinger, Jack Ora Amos, John W. Graham, John M. Breeding, Jesse Ellis, Clarence Cutsinger and Frank Dale Thompson.

The bank prospered during the years, the bank was enlarged and furnished with the latest equipment, a Community Room included at the back. The Thompson State Bank during the Depression after 1929 was forced to close Jan. 9, 1932, because of heavy withdrawals the preceding day. For three years Edinburg had no bank but merchants kept an exchange for the benefit of the townspeople.

On April 25, 1935, the present Edinburg State Bank was opened and the old Thompson State Bank depositors were paid off in full in the amount of $111,491.17. I.J. Waltz was special agent in the liquidation. Many depositors received their checks from the old bank and returned them in new accounts with the Edinburg State Bank. Officers of the new bank were J.O. Amos, president; lumber and veneer dealer of Edinburg; H.B. Briscoe, local grocer, vice president; and L.E. Goodrich of Shelbyville, cashier. Other directors were Roy Amos, A.W. Kellams, Walter Neible, Howard Mutz, and Fred Dorsey. The new bank had a capital of $30,000 with a $6,000 surplus.

Present Edinburg State Bank Officers are; Dale Parsley, chairman of the board; Bice Roth, vice chairman of the board; Ronald Seals, president of the Bank; Maurice A. Tuttle, vice president and cashier; Joseph Wilder, vice president; Richard Dennis, branch manager and assistant vice president; David Tracy, assistant vice president; Mrs. Elizabeth Scobee, assistant cashier; Mrs. Helen Neville, assistant cashier. Directors are Mr. Parsley, Mr. Roth, Mr. Seals, L.E. Newton, Lenzie Randolph, Dr. William Province, Robert Branigin, Dale Mutz and Henry Conover. Dale Amos was chm. of the board until his death in 1972.

The Farmers Bank was established in Edinburg Aug. 2, 1902 and located on the south side of Main Cross. For years Will Breeding was cashier and when the bank became The Farmers National Bank he became president until his retirement in 1928. Other first officers were - Dr. J.T. Middleton, president; Elza Breeding, vice president; John Drybread, bookkeeper. The Farmers National turned over its deposits to The Thompson State Bank in 1930. Officers at the time were Dan Compton, pres., Ivory J. Drybread, vice; John F. Drybread, cashier; Irene Hughes, ass't cashier. Other directors were William H. Heflen, J. N. Wheatley, Nella Drybread.

New location for Blue River Bldg. and Loan Association. Walnut and Main Cross Sts.

The Blue River Building and Loan Association was organized in Edinburg in 1911. Directors were F. Wiley, Dr. R.C. Mayhall, Walter Neible, Dr. J.P. Myers, Roscoe Mutz, James Mayfield and G.R. Mutz.

Present officers and directors are Tom Schaffer, president; Francis Otto, vice president; Wayne Kellams, vice president; Preston Schaffer, Willard Williams, Richard Bilby and Harold Parsons. Arthur G. Pruitt is secretary and Richard Neville assistant to the secretary.

SWAIMSVILLE

What many earlier residents of Edinburg remember as Swaimsville had its inception about 1906 when John B. Swaim, who for years had been in the hardware and implement business, bought an acre of ground across the Bartholomew County Line where Bo-Witt moved from this summer of 1972 and which was the location of Breeding Hardware and Implement Store. Mr. Swaim erected buildings there, induced other men, Noah Fisher and W.W. Fordyce to settle near him and operated his implement business aggressively.

Many still remember Mr. Swaim's chartering trains and taking his prospective customers to Seymour where he would sell them Allbrand buggies by the carload. Many remember Mr. Swaim's shipping carloads of implements to other towns and selling them after their arrival. Many times the lot to the west of the store would be filled with a new shipment of buggies.

Big events in Edinburg were the Corn Shows sponsored by Mr. Swaim.

Mr. Swaim was born in Hartsville in 1855 and died in 1946. He taught penmanship at Hartsville Business College. He was a beautiful scribe as is witnessed by the minutes he recorded when he was Town Clerk.

While very young he came to Edinburg first being in business with George Williams where the west room of Danner's is located. He was an employee of Will Bowman implement at the northeast corner of Holland and Main Cross, and later worked for Will Prichard.

In 1921 B.G. Breeding bought an interest in Mr. Swaim's business. In 1927 Mr. Swaim gave up active interest and in 1936 sold his interest to Mr. Breeding. He engaged in many real estate transactions and at one time owned nine pieces of property in downtown Edinburg and buildings in Martinsville and Franklin.

OTHER PRESENT INDUSTRIES

The Edinburg Block Co. has been in business in Edinburg since 1945. At that time David Marthin and Russell Colvin (both deceased) formed a partnership for the company Today it it in the same location on Eisenhowe Drive, is now a corporation with Marthin' son, Clay, as general manager since his fath er's death this year.

Midwest Art Metal, Inc., began in 194 doing custom stamping of metals and wa first located on south Holland street. Th present building on north Main street wa built in 1952. The Simonite Company, owne by Charles Mitchell and Carl Mitchell, wa moved into the same quarters as Midwest.Thi summer Simonite moved to the Breeding property on south County Line street. Presen officers of Midwest are Lawrence Quick, pres ident; A.R. Tresselt, vice president; Charle Mitchell, vice president; James Otis Freese secretary-treasurer.

Bo-Witt Products, Inc., moved to Edinbur in 1960, locating on west Thompson street William Bobbs of Columbus is president. Th company makes electrical insulators, marbl window sills and vanity tops and other items The plant was moved to the Breeding propert on County Line for a few years and this yea in 1972, Bo-Witt bought the Starch Factory bui ding and some acreage from Miles Laboratories.

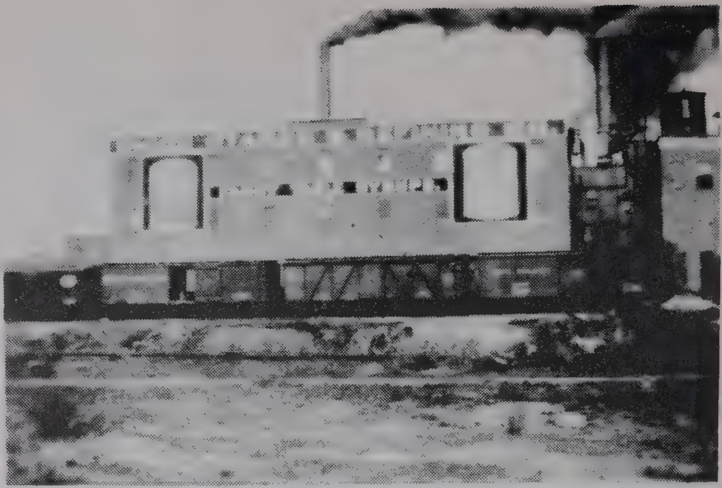
Edinburg is the home of two other ejection plastics companies besides Amos Plastics. David Linn Molded Plastics is locate north of Edinburg on Highway 31 where a ne building was constructed. The company bega here in 1970 and Mr. and Mrs. Linn are incorporators.

DMS Products and Engineering also cam to Edinburg in 1970. Dean Eardman is the hea of the company which is now located at 31 north Main street in the former Compton Dairy building.

Two elevators are here. Community Grai John D. Gharst and Bice Williams, is locate north of Edinburg on the railroad. Lotus Warehouse has the elevator and office at Cente cross and Shelby.

Allen Ha

Old Thompson Mill
6/19/57
County Landmark
Will Be Wrecked



First sight of Edinburg viewed from Interurban traveling from the north

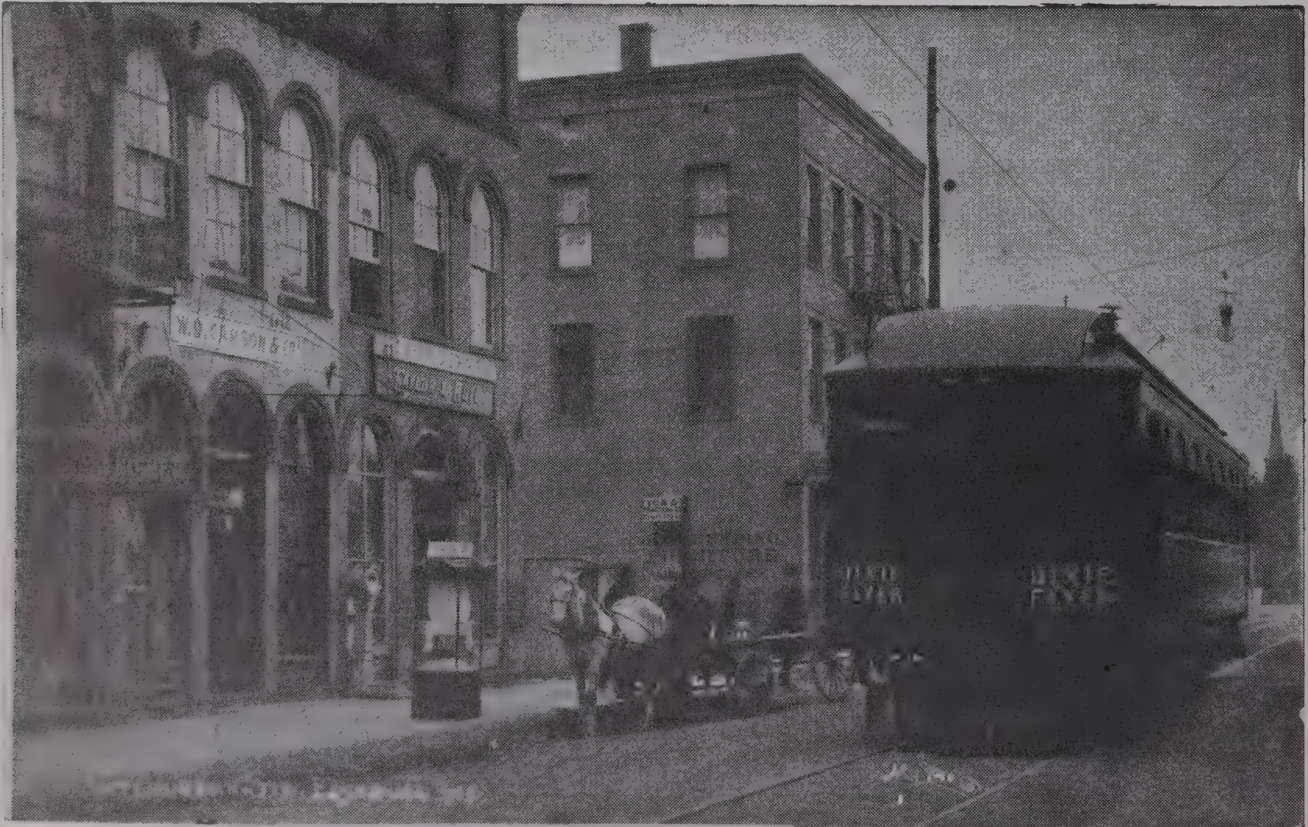
THE INTERURBAN LINE

The Interurban of traction line furnished transportation through Edinburg from Indianapolis to Seymour and later to New Albany and Louisville from 1903 to 1941 and the power for the line from Franklin to Coumbus was manufactured at Edinburg at the old power plant at the Starch Factory until the Public Service Company was formed.

The line came from the north on Main street, turned east at Main Cross with the Interurban station on that northeast corner, went through the downtown section, and turned south on Kyle street out of town. The Dixie Flyer came through Edinburg, six Flyers daily each way.

It was an inexpensive, fast and convenient way to travel, with stops all along the line. Many commuters to Franklin, Columbus and Indianapolis were regular customers and many students from Edinburg have attended Franklin College via the interurban. The popularity of the automobile and bus finally closed the line and the tracks were taken up.

One misfortune has been reported. The interurban was coming into town from the north at such a clip that the engineer failed to make the turn on Main Cross street ending up in the library yard.



Dixie Flyer Interurban through Edinburg about 1905. Waiting room in Taylor and Roth Drugstore.

Edinburg had a great deal to do with the interurban. In 1898 Joseph and William Irwin of Columbus had ideas of developing a traction line from the county seats to Indianapolis. By Dec., 1900, the line had been built from Greenwood to Indianapolis and by 1903 through Edinburg to Columbus.

As the line was being built the Irwins noticed the old starch factory plant at Edinburg, not in operation at the time, had a power plant and could be used to provide a part of the electric current for the traction line south. An organization was formed by the Irwins for the traction line with Joseph I. Irwin, pres., Will Irwin, vice pres., Hugh Th. Miller, treas., Miss Lula Patterson, sec. The line went by different names through the years, The Indianapolis, Columbus and Southern Traction Co., Indiana Railroad System, Interstate Public Service.

Levi Crater was the first power plant superintendent coming to Edinburg in 1901. H.C. Bouslog came to Edinburg in 1913. James Phillips and Alfred Mitchell were engineers. Long time station agents were John Beal and Will Richards.

BUSINESS ITEMS from Courier

June 29, 1878 - Why aren't there more hitching racks erected to accommodate our country cousins who come to town to spend their ore. The present number is inadequate to the demand. (One hundred years later the complaint sounds familiar only in another setting).

April 6, 1878 - We receive four mails a day now, two north and two south. It has proved to be quite an accommodation to our business men, and we hope it will be a permanent thing.

July 22, 1880 - John A. Thompson and Co. paid out $10,000 for wheat last Sat.

Mar. 16, 1878 - W. H. Thompson, the enterprising and well known merchant, leaves for the East next week to purchase his spring stock of goods.

Sept. 21, 1882 - A special train by JM&I will be run from Shelbyville to Edinburg on Friday for the accommodation of those who desire to attend the fair on that day as well as the speaking at night by Hon. D. W. Voorhies, the train not leaving until 9 p.m.

Oct. 25, 1883 - Thompson & Scholler Co. had a telephone line run into their new brick office at the mill (Center Cross and Shelby Ave.,) on Monday Night connecting it with A.C. Thompson Bank where orders for flour, feed, etc. can be left and promptly filled.

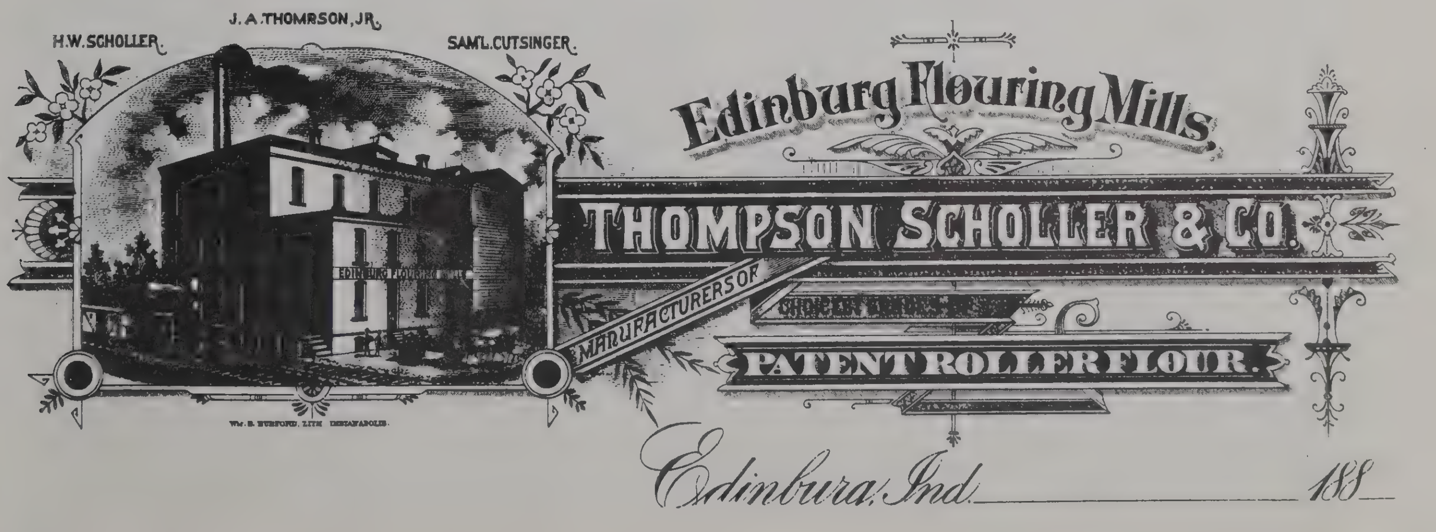
Oct. 25, 1883 - "Joe" a stonecutter on Thompson dam, got on a big "hurrah" last Saturday and was arrested and put in the calaboose on charges of "drunk and disorderly". Broke out with matlock, escaped, and was recaptured.

June 18, 1888 - Edinburg is becoming noted as a shipping point. Twenty-five thousand dollars worth of cattle were shipped from here one day last week.

June 18, 1888 - The nomination of Harrison and Morton was ratified at Edinburg Tuesday night. The mechanics Band marched through the streets followed by hundreds of enthusiastic people. Cannons were fired, bonfires built, and the celebration kept up until a late hour.

May 15, 1884, The Edinburg Fair this year will be the best one in this section of the country, "and don't you forget it."

Jas. P. Townsend has wisely sent in his name, accompanied by the cash, for a year's subscription to The Courier.



H.W. SCHOLLER.
J. A. THOMPSON, JR.
SAM'L CUTSINGER.

Edinburg Flouring Mills

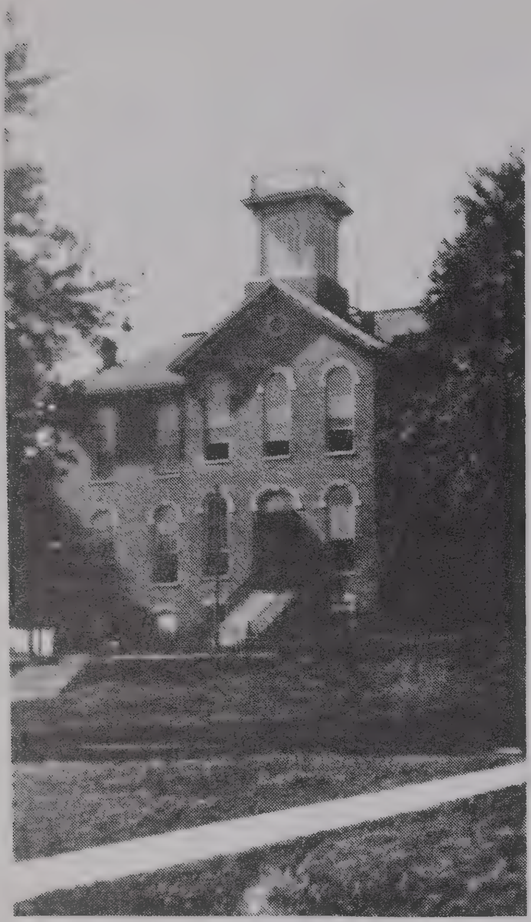
THOMPSON SCHOLLER & CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF
CHOICEST BRANDS
PATENT ROLLER FLOUR.

Wm. B. BURFORD, LITH. INDIANAPOLIS.

Edinburg, Ind. ______________ 188__

Edinburg Schools



1869

This spring of 1972 students at Edinburg Community High School completed the first year in the very modern and brand new academic wing of the high school which was built parallel to the vocational-gym wing, the two connected by a covered walkway and forming a more or less H-shaped building as a total high school complex with the most modern of facilities. The Vocational-Gym wing was built in 1957 and the vocational auto mechanics and industrial arts workshop in 1966.

Completing the community schools today are a Middle School, 5-6-7 grades, housed in the high school building on the hill, and an East Side Elementary School, grades 1-4, built in 1963 on ground purchased north of East Main Cross Street at the east edge of Edinburg. The grade school building on the hill is housing superintendent's offices and the Community Center.

Early, Early, History

Edinburg had an early start in education but very little is written of Edinburg in county histories. A new Indiana State Constitution was adopted in 1851 paving the way for tax-supported schools. By 1888 Blue River Township had several little "red brick" school houses.

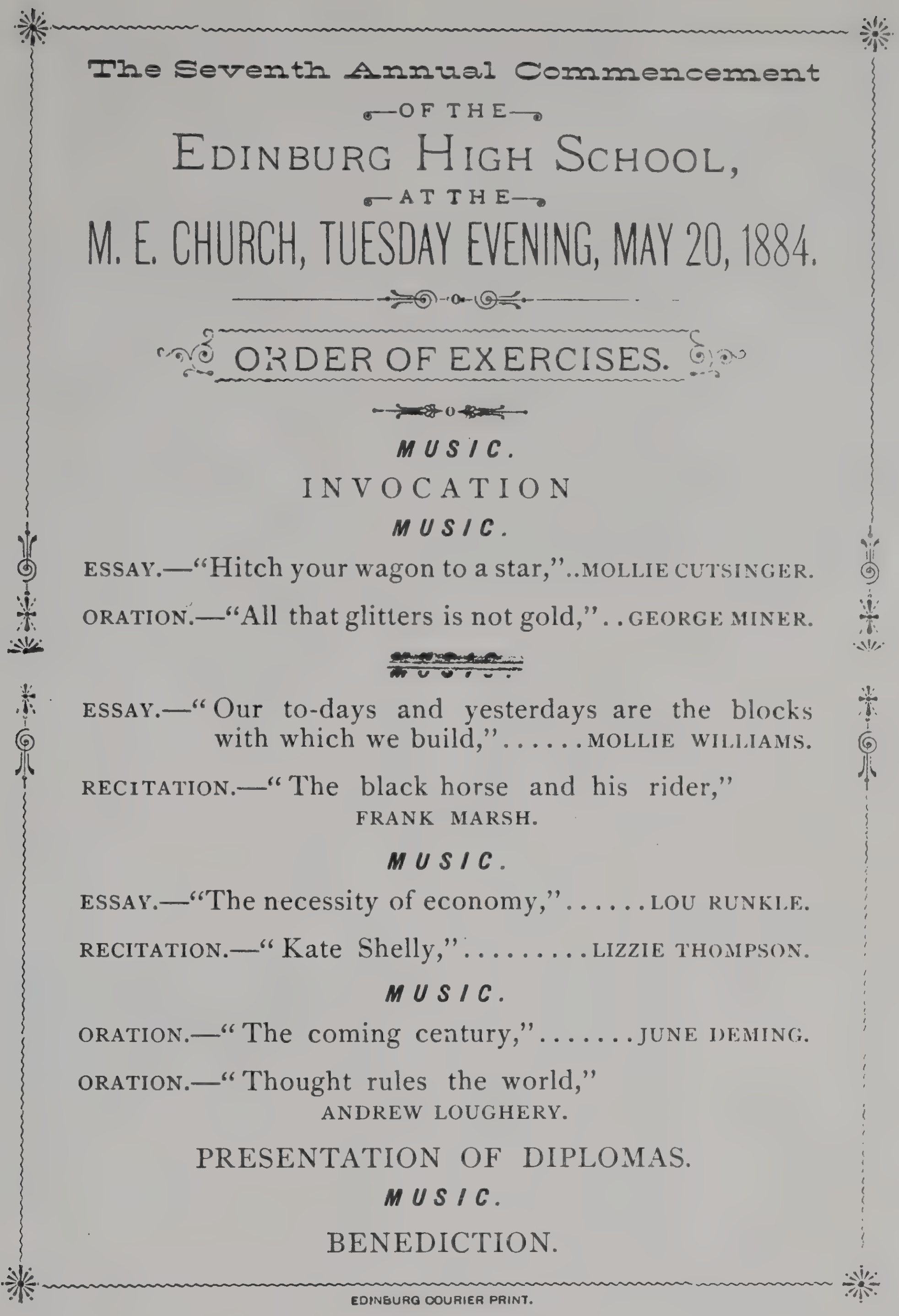
Public schools in Edinburg are nearly 100 years old. The first public school was located at 500 East Main Cross street on a tract of land which had been given to the Town of Edinburg by George C. Cutsinger, great grandfather of Mrs. Lowell Yelton, and wife in 1838 for the express purpose of a school building. The playground extended to Center Cross. At the Town election of 1854, great interest was manifested upon the selection of a site for a school house when the old school grounds in the eastern part of town were selected for the location. This building was of brick, two stories high, 60x40 feet. Previous to this, a Rev. Charles Hutchison, graduate of Dartmouth, came here and opened a school in the old church building (Benevolent Society bldg. on south Walnut street) for instructions in the higher classes. School had been held previously there and in homes. A colored school was located on Grant street in 1891 where the Pilgrim Holiness Church is.

On Jan. 3, 1856, the first public grade school taught in Edinburg was opened under the principalship of Prof. J. Ared R. Woodfill, graduate of Hanover College who had three teachers under him. The school on East Main Cross and Grant burned in 1867, and the first school built on the hill in 1869, under the direction of Steward Wilson, Harvey Lewis, and John C. Kelly, trustees.

The building on the hill was two-story and of brick burned at the Alex Pruitt kilns east of town where Mrs. A. S. Willard now lives. This lasted until 1911 when a new Edinburg school was begun and completed in 1912 on the same school site. School continued during construction in the churches over town. The 1912 graduating class had its senior year in the old Opera House which was the first floor of the Masonic Temple.

In 1912 when the building was completed an Industrial Arts and Home Economics department were added to the curriculum and had quarters in the basement. Also the basement which now is the Community Center was the Edinburg gym. On the school board were John A. Thompson, banker, Dr. R.C. Mayhall, and Frank Winterburg, grocer.

In 1925 the new high school begun in 1924 was completed directly north of the first building. The Jr-Sr. high school arrangement was organized. The building included a new



The Seventh Annual Commencement

—OF THE—

EDINBURG HIGH SCHOOL,

—AT THE—

M. E. CHURCH, TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 20, 1884.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

MUSIC.

INVOCATION

MUSIC.

ESSAY.—"Hitch your wagon to a star,"..MOLLIE CUTSINGER.

ORATION.—"All that glitters is not gold,"..GEORGE MINER.

MUSIC.

ESSAY.—"Our to-days and yesterdays are the blocks with which we build,"......MOLLIE WILLIAMS.

RECITATION.—"The black horse and his rider,"
FRANK MARSH.

MUSIC.

ESSAY.—"The necessity of economy,"......LOU RUNKLE.

RECITATION.—"Kate Shelly,".........LIZZIE THOMPSON.

MUSIC.

ORATION.—"The coming century,".......JUNE DEMING.

ORATION.—"Thought rules the world,"
ANDREW LOUGHERY.

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS.

MUSIC.

BENEDICTION.

EDINBURG COURIER PRINT.

gymnasium and auditorium. The Commerce department was added. On the school board were A.J. Loughery, Howard Mutz and Roy Amos, Superintendent was Paul F. Boston. In 1942 Edinburg High School was admitted to the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

After W.W. II and the increase in enrollment the next step was to bridge the Grade School and High School. The annex was begun in 1952 and besides several modern rooms a cafeteria was included. On the board were Mrs. Byce Sconce, Preston Schaffer and Carl Allison. Dewey Manuel was superintendent when the school was begun and Leonard Ireland when it was completed.

Enrollment took a jump. In 1951-52 there were 793 pupils and, in 1963-64, 1,488. Fifteen hundred students are anticipated this fall.

In 1953 the next year after the bridge, a Junior high school was constructed north of the high school and directly behind the Catholic Church. Serving on two different boards during construction were these people: Mrs Sconce, Mr. Allison, Mr. Schaffer and Ray Lain. Preparation for the building was made by Mr. Manuel given authority by the secretary of the board of 1950, Bice Roth, to apply for Federal Funds.

The next large step was the building to

house a new gym and Vocational Education departments. Date 1957 and a holding company was organized to finance the construction. Officers were Preston Schaffer, Carl Allison, Charles Gundrum, Robert Stine and Lowell Barett. It was built at a cost of $449,000 located south of Campbell street the gym having a seating capacity of 2,400. Two different school boards worked on the project so there are five names, L.E. Newton, Mitchell Glick, Ray Lain, George Kohlmeier and Donald Piatt. Leonard Ireland was superintendent.

Another holding company was organized to finance the East Side School of 1963. Its officers were Tom Lain, Charles Mitchell, Hoyt Parmer and Baron LaGrange. Again more than one board worked on the building plans, In 1962 Edinburg Schools had been consolidated to include Blue River Township students. Previously these students attended Edinburg schools but tuition was paid by the township trustee's office. On the school boards were Richard Barnett, Wenonah Brewer, Mitchell Glick, Wayne Hamilton, Don Piatt, Arthur Pruitt, James Records, Preston Schaffer, Dr. William Smith, Don States, Arnold Thure and Jack Workman. Lewis Jacob was superintendent.

The board at the time of the new academic wing of 1972 was planned were Malcolm Heuss, Mrs. William Schaffer, Robert Freese, Hoyt Parmer, and Albert B. Cox. Another holding company was formed. Officers were David Patterson, Lavern King, Earl Kime, and Baron LaGrange.

School board members in 1972 are Albert B. Cox, president, Malcolm Heuss, Hoyt Parmer, Richard Barnett, and Larry Taulman, and Attorney Baron LaGrange, Dr. Ross Sharp, superintendent; Gerald McCullum, high school principal. Gerry Brand, Middle School principal, and Wilbur Houze, Elementary Principal.

EAST SIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

New High School
1971

EDINBURG WRIGHT-HAGEMAN LIBRARY

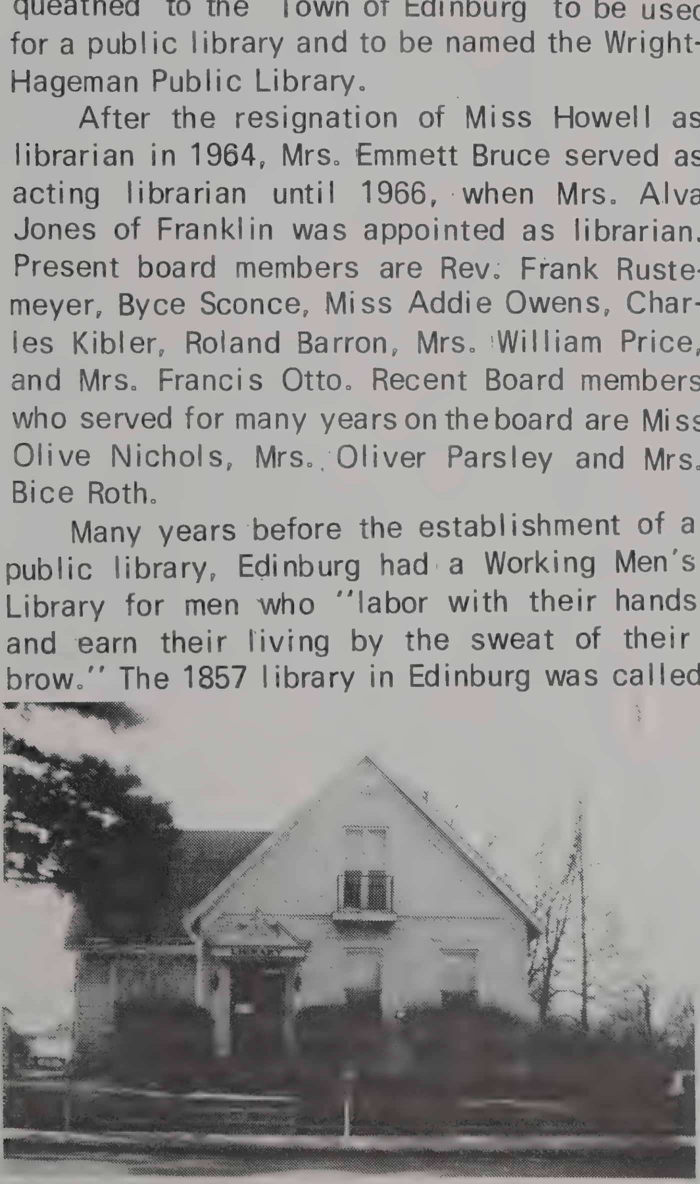
The Edinburg Wright-Hageman Public Library was established in 1921 and Miss Mary Howell was librarian for 43 years before her retirement in 1964. The first secretary of the board was R. Kenneth Auxier who served in that capacity until 1969.

In 1921 a committee organized to form a public library included Mrs. Walter Neible, Rev. E.A. Arthur and Mr. Auxier. On the first board were Mr. Auxier, Mrs. John Hyde, Mrs. Roscoe Cutsinger, Miss Maude Park, Rev. Arthur, Miss Minnie Mullen and Prof. A.D. Montgomery. First location was in the Harold Pruitt building over the tailoring shop of C.F. Otto (now Larry's Barbershop.) Successively it was moved to the Thompson bank building, in the James F. Miller building, now torn down, and in 1926 to the corner of Walnut and Thompson where a building was purchased from Dr. J.T. Middleton.

At the death of Mrs. Frank Hageman, she was a Wright and her mother a Runkle, in 1928, her property on west Main Cross street was bequeathed to the Town of Edinburg to be used for a public library and to be named the Wright-Hageman Public Library.

After the resignation of Miss Howell as librarian in 1964, Mrs. Emmett Bruce served as acting librarian until 1966, when Mrs. Alva Jones of Franklin was appointed as librarian. Present board members are Rev. Frank Rustemeyer, Byce Sconce, Miss Addie Owens, Charles Kibler, Roland Barron, Mrs. William Price, and Mrs. Francis Otto. Recent Board members who served for many years on the board are Miss Olive Nichols, Mrs. Oliver Parsley and Mrs. Bice Roth.

Many years before the establishment of a public library, Edinburg had a Working Men's Library for men who "labor with their hands and earn their living by the sweat of their brow." The 1857 library in Edinburg was called the McClure Working Men's Institute after William McClure, an associate of Robert Owen in the experiment in cooperative living at New Harmony. He willed $500 to any club so organized.



EDINBURG'S PARKS

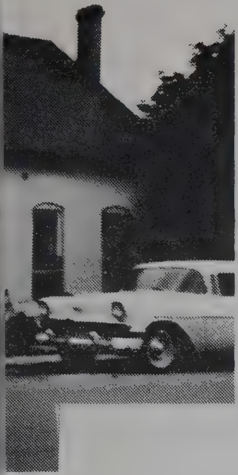
In 1915 the Town of Edinburg was given a lot for public park at the corner of Walnut and Thompson streets by P.R. and Ruth Webb Brodbeck. It was at the location of the fire station today, was called Eden Park and many remember the band stand there. The active Civic League had the band stand built and every Wednesday night townspeople gathered there to enjoy the band concert. Someone asked where the concerts had been before that and that is another story.

Just west of the Barrett building up town used to be the old arch alley. The building was constructed that way purposely so that the second story was continuous with the adjoining building and the hall above was called Pruitt Hall, meeting place for many clubs. In the summer times once a week a movable stage was rolled out from the arch alley onto the street and the band would give a concert.

Irwin Park was established in 1938 when Will Irwin of Columbus gave the Town of Edinburg eight acres on Blue River directly west of the Starch Factory. Blue River had been the swimming spot at Edinburg through the years. Now a shelter house was built, concession stand, playground equipment installed, tennis courts laid out. The park now has two shelter houses and the school maintains a football field and track there.

Another park area has been established. In 1966 a swimming pool north of East Side Elementary school was built by the Amos Foundation for the Town of Edinburg and was to be known as Amos Memorial Pool. Now a ball diamond and park area have been laid out.

Early Homes

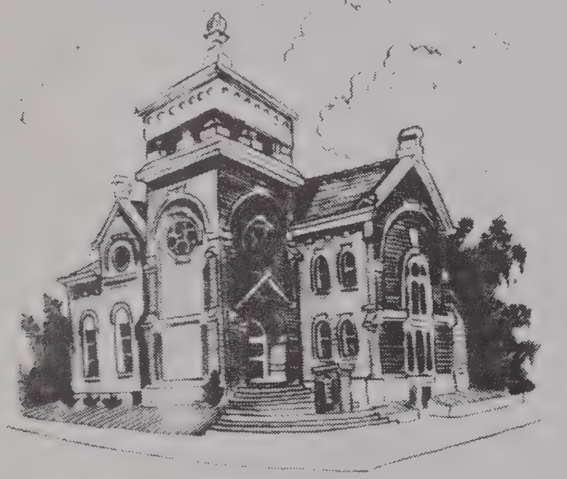


CHURCHES IN EDINBURG

In tracing the religious influence in our town was a small class to receive the word of God which was formed about three miles northwest of Edinburg on Sugar Creek in the early 1820's with worship held in private homes. In a few years it was decided to move to Edinburg where services were held in the house of William Hunt, one of the earliest settlers and Methodists in the settlement.

In 1833, the settlers met to form a society whose aim was to erect a suitable meeting house for all to use. Thus the Benevolent Society was formed. A lot was purchased on south Walnut street just north of the Masonic Temple at the "hitch lot" and a frame building facing Walnut street was built. Those on the committee were Joseph Dawson, R. B. Treadway, Gavin Mitchell , D. D. Lawlin, James Thompson, Israel Watts, Timothy Threlkeld, Jacob Barton, Issac Williams and John Lewis, Hunt, Roland Williams, Nathan Kyle.

All congregations met in this building until 1846 when the increase of numbers and interest caused denominations to locate their own accomodations.



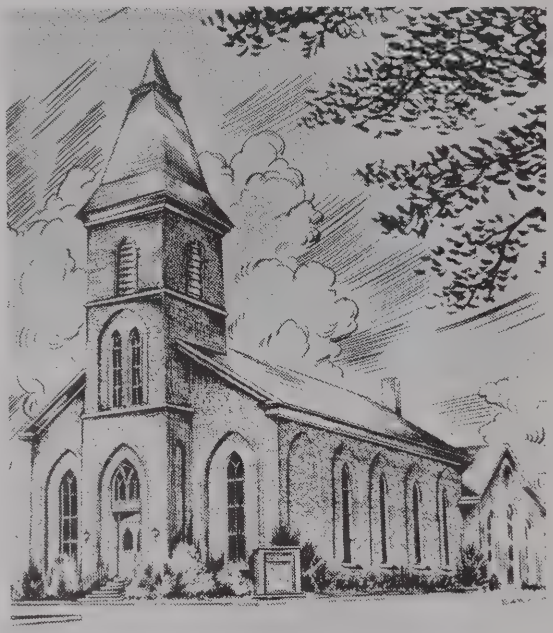
The Christian Church in 1846 bought a lot on south Walnut street, site of the present church and educational building. The deed for the lot was made to the church in the Legate Addition and a frame building 40 x 50 was erected. The furnishings of the first church were in keeping with the times: a bare floor, wooden benches, partitions separating the women from the men and heated with a stove. The cost of the present structure built in 1874 was $18,500. Charter members were four families: Gavin Mitchell, Thomas Thraikeld (Threlkeld) Elizabeth Threlkeld, Abra M. Dupree. Hannah Dupree, David McCoy, and J. W. Dupree.

Edinburg has had several outstanding ministers. One of renown was the Christian Minister, Rev. Knowles Shaw, a great singer, who wrote "Bringing in the Sheaves" while in Edinburg.

At the Christian Church trustee election on Monday afternoon, 1886, the following named gentlemen were chosen as such: John A. Thompson, A. C. Thompson, E. C. Thompson, Sam Cutsinger and Adam Mutz. A majority of the newly elected trustees were decidedly in favor of building a new house of worship, four of them signifying their willingness to contribute two-thirds of the expense thus incurred.

Ed Thompson was a great benefactor and after moving to Indianapolis and the death of his daughter, Bona, at age of 21, he had built a library at Butler University in Indianapolis called the Bona Thompson Library.

The Christians date their congregation to 1834. The Rev. Frank Rustemeyer is minister at the Christian Church at the present time.



The Methodist congregation made a move to have its own church building. In 1849 the first Methodist church building in Edinburg was a frame structure 45 x 32 and 13 foot story. Wm. P. Sims received the building contract and the location was 204 south Walnut street at that time owned by Ivory Legate. Trustees of the church were Harvey Lewis, John C. Valentine, William Moorman, Russell Brown, and Abner Pugh. Just 20 years after the erection of the church on Walnut street the present brick structure on west Campbell street was begun and the new building dedicated in 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hosford and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Valentine sold the property in Legate's Addition for the church. A proposed spire was left undone because the church was in debt, relates Clifford Hamilton in his "History of the Methodist Church". The Town Board of Edinburg moved to have the Town put a town clock in the spire and use the striking bell as a fire alarm. Other churches did not go along. He also tells that in 1883 the steeple was finally begun and calamity hit. The 1883 cyclone which hit Edinburg not only demolished the church steeple practically completed but also blew the wreckage onto the new parsonage and wrecked it. Steward Wilson, grandfather of Herbert Wilson, was contractor and described the damage. But the Methodists were not daunted. They decided the spire must go up and another parsonage built. The entire church with its iron railings or crest atop was finally completed.

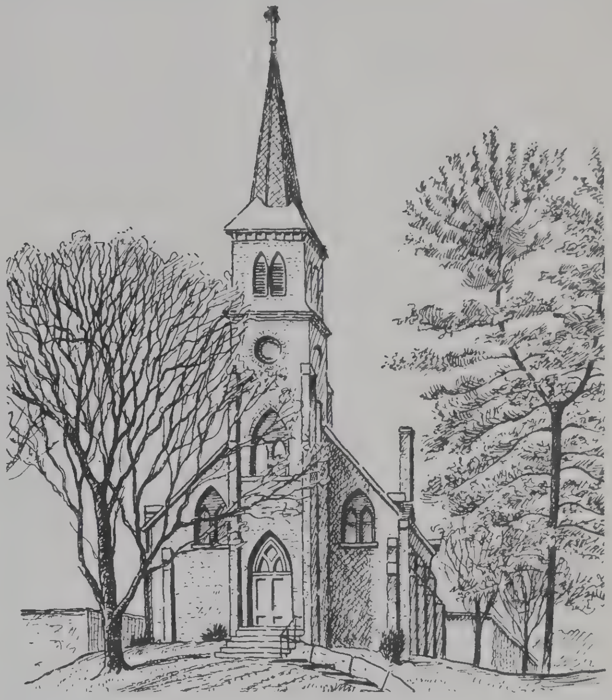
Rev. Richard Gillum is pastor of the United Methodist Church in Edinburg today.

The Presbyterian Church in Edinburg was organized by the Rev. Henry Little, D. D. in 1864. A frame building east of the railroad on Main Cross street was built in 1850 by the Methodist Protestant or Radical Church under the leadership of Austin Shipp and his brother, Rev. Thomas Shipp which in 1863 passed into the hands of the Presbyterians. The original members were twelve in number. A. S. Rominger, Amanda Rominger, Clarissa Remley, Rachel Stuart, Martha Toner, Catherine Cox, Sarah Deming, Sarah Adams, Mary Shipp Givens, Emily and Adelaide Rominger. The first minister was Rev. Wm. I. Clark.

The present brick structure was built in 1916 during the pastorate of Dr. Jean S. Milner who went from Edinburg directly to Indianapolis where until his retirement he served the Second Presbyterian Church. Additional Sunday School rooms and a Fellowship Hall were added during the ministry of the Rev. Lawrence Sunkel, now pastor of the John Knox Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis, The sanctuary of the brick church is on the foundation of the little frame building.

Descendants of the charter members in the church today are the James Otis Freese family, descendants of Catherine Cox, Mrs. Bice Roth, a descendant of Sarah Adams, and Mrs. B. G. Breeding related to the Rominger family.

The Rev. Chilton Bowles is present minister.



According to the manuscript account written by Father Victor Schnell in 1873 from St. Mary of the Woods College and obtained by Clifford Hamilton from Rev. Robert Gorman. In 1835 there was only one Catholic in Edinburg, Mrs. Madgalene Pfabzgraff, who had come to America from Bavaria as a young woman with her father. Her husband was a physician and after his death she married a man by the name of Tierney. The first Priest to celebrate Mass in Edinburg was the Rev. Father Vincent Bacquelin who held Mass as early as 1836 in the home of Mrs. Tierney. By 1845 with the coming of the railroad several Irish families arrived in Edinburg, John Walsh, Dr. William Rush, Michael Fogarty, and later Mrs. Hannah Ryan, mother of James, Thomas, and Richard Ryan. In 1851 the first church was built on the west hill overlooking the town. It was a neat frame structure built on land donated by Dr. Isaac Keeley. John Walsh and Thomas Fitzgibbons contracted for the building. Fifty feet more ground adjoining the church was secured from Henry Borry in 1870.

In 1883 the congregation moved for a new church. Contract was let to Keller and Brockman for a brick structure on the site of the old church at the cost of $4,500. The brick work was let to Rubush and Sons of Edinburg. The huge Cross was built in Columbus by Thomas Sullivan. It is one of the most imposing sites of any church in Johnson County.

For several years Edinburg was the center of the Columbus, Franklin, Seymour, Henryville, Greenwood, Brownstown, Taylorsville, Mt. Erin, Mt. Liberty, missions. A Catholic School was in Edinburg a short time before the beginning of the public schools in 1852. Another Catholic School was opened with 55 scholars in 1872, and withdrawn by 1882.

During most of its history the church has been attached to the Columbus parish. The Rev. Father Richard Zore of Indianapolis has attended Holy Trinity Church since 1861.

The Edinburg Colored Baptist Church on the northeast corner of Center Cross and Main streets was organized in 1881 by Rev. John R. Miller with the following members: Henry Goodin and wife, Esther Canady, Thomas E. Hill, Mrs. Hill, George Quinn, Malvina Quinn, David Beeler, and wife, David Johnson, and wife, Elizabeth Goodin, Leslie Lee and Elizabeth Johnson. The congregation today still holds an all-day meeting and basket dinner at the church once a year. At the present time the building is the home of the Edinburg Trinity Church of God. Robert Simpson, pastor.

It was not until 1939 that another church was established in Edinburg. At first the Pilgrim Holiness Church members met at the home of Frank Ridpath, and then moved into the building on south Holland street south of the Courier building. In 1944 the church was moved to Grant street where it is today. The name has been changed to Edinburg Wesleyan Church and Rev. Russell Meek is pastor.

In the 1940's several churches were begun here. The Edinburg Apostolic Church had meetings first at the corner of Thompson and Holland in the old Legion building in 1943. By 1945 a church building was built on County Line street and south Main where it is located today and has been enlarged. Rev. Grover Myers, pastor, has been the minister from the beginning.

The Assembly of God Church at 904 south Holland first had cottage prayer meetings in 1945 and by 1947 the church building was built and later expanded. Rev. George Eagler is the present pastor and also served an earlier pastorate.

The Blue River Gospel Tabernacle was built by Pastor Raymond Brown in 1948 on Eisenhower Drive. By 1951 Faith Nursing Home was begun. Wings have been added to make a 34-bed home. The Home presently is being enlarged with improved facilities.

The Church of the Nazarene at Clay and Bachelor streets was organized in September of 1948 and the church building built a year later. James W. Palmer is pastor.

The Edinburg Separate Baptist Church had its first service in the colored church in 1956 and the building on south Main street was built a year later, 1957. Rev. William England was the first pastor. Last year large additions were made to the church. Present pastor is Homer Whited.

More recent churches are the Edinburg Holiness, Franklin street, John Lucas pastor, Edinburg East Side Baptist (Southern) on Lind Drive east of Pruitt East Addition.

Jehovah's Witness congregation has a hall at 525 south Main, Edward Klinglesmith, minister.

Church of God of Prophecy, corner Perry and Pleasant Sts., James R. Alexander, Pastor.

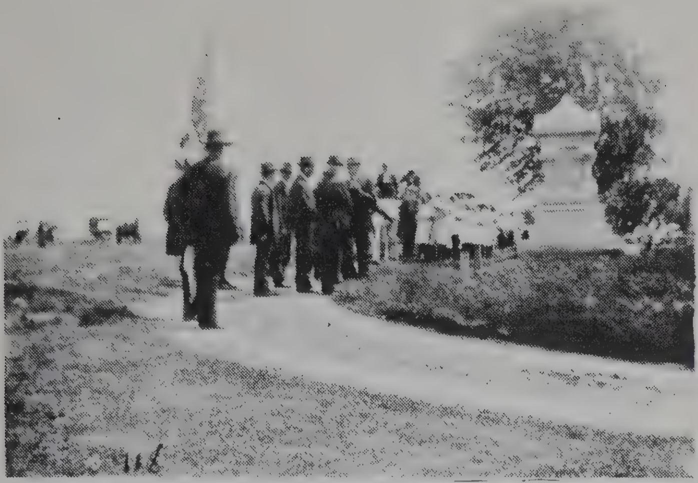
Several churches in the surrounding neighborhood have become a part of the community. St. George Lutheran was organized in 1838. The present church building on Rd. 252 east of Edinburg built in 1857 is the second oldest standing Lutheran church in Indiana. Early in the church were Jacob Maley, the Comptons, Snepps, Mullendores, Hanemans, Isleys, Neibels and George Warner.

There are the Jollity United Methodist Church north of Edinburg, the Amity Baptist Church, and the Old Union Christian Church south of Edinburg.

CEMETERY

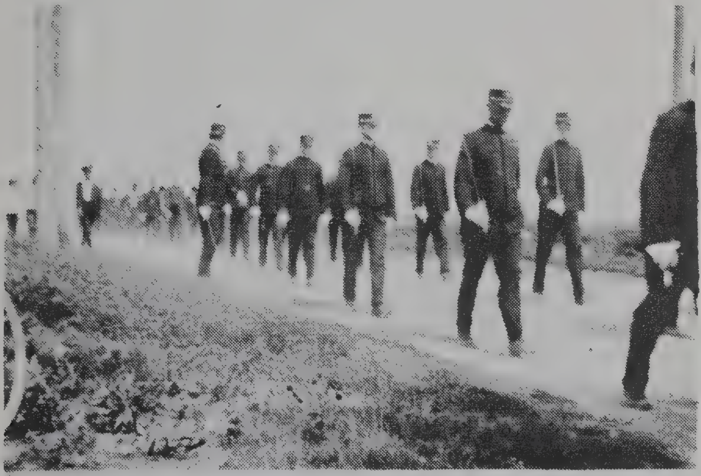
Edinburg has one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the state and residents take great pride in it. Great credit can be given to the women of the Civic League in beautifying the cemetery.

The beginning of the Edinburg Cemetery now known as Rest Haven was the sale of 4½ acres of land from Alexander and Rebecca Ann Breeding from their farm for $300 in 1852 to the trustees of the Edinburg Burial Ground, as it was known to them, Edward Mooney, James Thompson, Austin Shipp, Wm. P. Simms, and Wm. H. Mitchell. All the area north of the main road from the entrance is considered Breeding Addition. Section A in Breeding Addition lies west of the old brick house. Section B in which



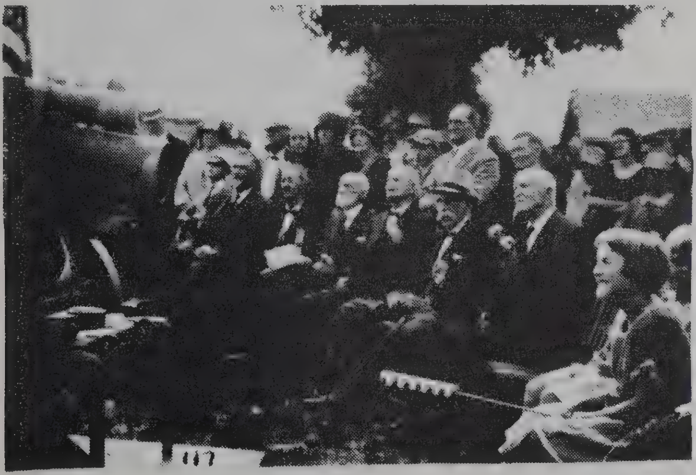
Edinburg cemetery about 1910. No trees, drive graveled. Area to east toward Edinburg still a field. A. C. Thompson monument.

World War 1 Veterans on Decoration Day.



Uniform rank Knights of Pythias entering cemetery. Old state road as it looked around 1920.

Decoration Day in early 1920's. S. C. "Kim" Harrell by Flag.



Civil War Veterans on Memorial Day in 1920's. Seated L to R: James Lacy, Geo. Payne, Calvin Freese, Wm. Engelbach, G. Brauner, A. H. Smith.

Decoration Day in recent showing Legion firing squad, World War II Veterans.

the brick house stands was platted as the Harvey Lewis Addition to the Edinburg Cemetery. The sections include several graves of early settlers moved from The Edinburg Hill Cemetery. Sections C and D directly north of A and B were platted by the Town of Edinburg as Edinburg Additions to the cemetery. By 1911 Sections D, E through L, all north of the main road, were acquired by the town. In 1922 Roscoe Mutz, a Cemetery trustee, went to the Town Board and by ordinance the cemetery board as presently constituted was set up. In two or three years a sexton was employed for the first time. First sexton was Otto Rogers who served for over 20 years.

It was before this time that the Civic League, organization of energetic civic-minded women became interested in the cemetery. In a Indianapolis newspaper clipping, Mrs. Jennie Badger, secretary of the league, was quoted as saying, "The cemetery is just a weedpatch and we are going to to something about it." So members got busy, some of them even going to the cemetery and helping pull weeds. The roads were improved, the two pillars were erected at the entrance, and trees were planted through the efforts of the league. Several names for the cemetery were considered by the League and Rest Haven, the suggestion of Mrs. David Webb, was chosen. The Business Women's group also have given trees and other things to the cemetery.

The Mooney Addition lies south of the main road and all sections are from land bought when the cemetery received $10,000 in the Will of Ed Mooney in 1928. Five thousand dollars was used in the purchase of land extending south to the present Thompson farm and roads and other improvements installed.

The cemetery has been extended from time to time. In 1955 a section was bought from Mrs. Roy Death and Roscoe Prosser extending the cemetery west to Highway 31. Seven acres to the north were bought from Roscoe Prosser and three acres were purchased from Orville and Flossie Thompson in 1964. The cemetery has been fortunate in receiving gifts and part of the gifts have been used in purchasing extra ground. Harry Scholler left the Cemetery $13,000 and in 1968 Alonzo Badger, son of Mrs. Jennie Badger, willed to the cemetery five percent of the interest from his estate. This is to be continuous and after inheritance taxes are paid, will amount to over $6,000 a year.

Fresto McKee is the present sexton and Harry Gharst secretary of the cemetery board.

First Burial

The first burial in Johnson County was at Edinburg Hill Cemetery in 1822 on the hill at the west edge of Edinburg back of the Byce Sconce house. It it believed there are four graves between the Sconce and Bruce house, that of Mrs. Joe Barnett Townsend in 1822, the first person to die in the town for which a coffin was made of boards from his cupboard by Allen Williams. It also is understood that Mr. and Mrs. Joe Townsend had their log cabin on the brow of the hill at the Sconce residence. Alexander Thompson, founder of Edinburg in 1822 is buried there; his wife Ann Donaldson Thompson, daughter of William Donaldson, Revolutionary solder for whom the Edinburg chapter of DAR is named; and Richard Conner who died soon after Mrs. Townsend.

Mrs. Hannah McEwen, granddaughter of Alexander Thompson and grandmother of Mrs. Emmett Bruce, deeded the ground of the school hill to the Edinburg Schools in 1930 with the stipulation the small cemetery be cared for.

EARLY EDINBURG POLITICS

Great political excitement reigned in Edinburg in the old days just as it does in these days. During the summer and fall of 1856 excitement prevailed and large mass meetings were held by both Democrats and Republicans in Edinburg and had monster barbeques and meetings. The Democrats had theirs in Samuel Cutsinger's grove, where the old Cutsinger house was torn down this year north of town, on Sept. 9. Multitudes came with hickory wagons, on horseback, and on foot with Flags flying and banners waving. Sen. Jesse D. Bright, Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks and Hon. William

Republican Rally in Edinburg Ind

Republican Rally in Edinburg

Preston of Ky., were the chief speakers. This was the largest political meeting ever held in Edinburg and the woods literally swarmed with people.

One month later the Republicans gave a barbeque in White's woods (later Breeding's Woods, East Thompson st., Meadow Village). Alfred C. Thompson, president of the Fremont Club, was chief Marshal. Two liberal and public spirited citizens, Stephen Legate and Jackson Pruitt, contributed liberally to its success. Though not the largest, the dinner was reported as the most supurb of anything witnessed during the season. In October election Blue River Twp. gave Oliver Morton a majority for governor. Dillard Ricketts, Edinburg Hog merchant, was elected to the Legislature and Noah Perry of Edinburg, father of Mrs. Burley Graves of Edinburg, was elected sheriff of Johnson County.

Edinburg has had other state Legislators through the years. Harry Hill, Democrat, served for more than one term, Wayne Kellams who was 7th district GOP chairman, was a Legislator, and also Preston Schaffer. Many years ago Sam Haslam was Republican County chairman.

Another story on Oliver Morton was that he once addressed a political rally at Edinburg, he was Lt. Governor, Governor, and U. S. Senator, which was held in a grove of trees where the Neible home was, now Marvin Burton, on East Main Cross street. In 1955 the old ash tree in the Neible yard was felled and the story related then of the political rally held here and that Morton gave his address under that tree. In the evening after the rally Mr. Morton was the dinner guest of Mrs. Mollie Thompson and Mrs. Susan Bailey.

THE POST OFFICE

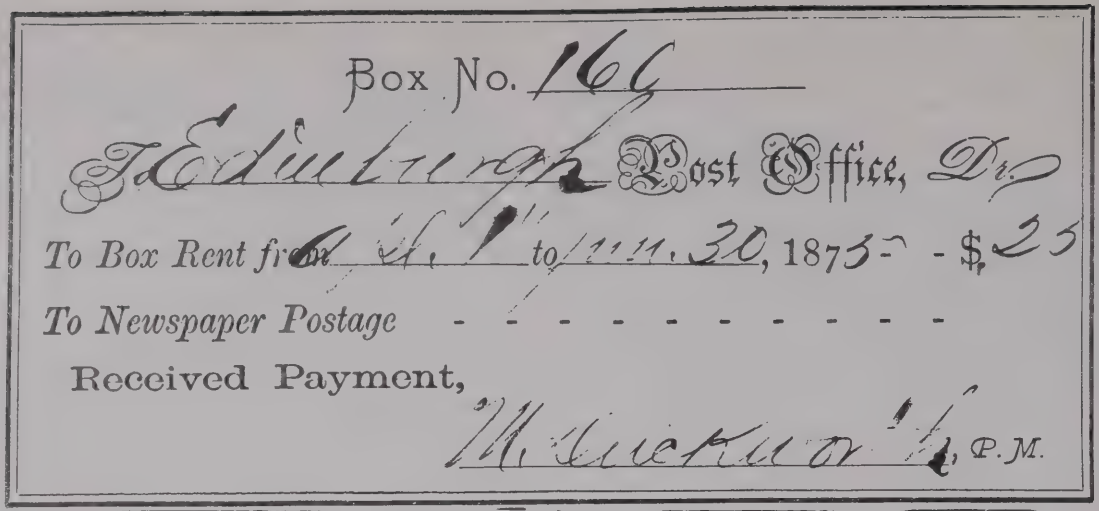
Jan. 1, 1966, the Edinburg Post Office moved into a brand new building at 102 south Walnut street. It was a mark in history, for, like so many towns and villages of this area, Edinburg now had its first specific building. Post offices have been tucked back into corners of general stores or in the front room of a dwelling for most of the early years of every town's growth. It is an essential part of the town. Edinburg was founded in 1822 and by 1823 she had her first postmaster. Banta and Branigin's histories both state Gavin Mitchell was the first postmaster but General Services Adm. Natl. Archives and Service in a letter to Clifford Hamilton lists William Hensley as the first postmaster, 1823. It is natural that this would be for Mr. Hensley was the agent for Booth and Newby of Salem who had the first store in Edinburg in 1822.

Gavin Mitchell is listed as the second postmaster, appointed in 1829; Timothy Threlkeld, 1836; Coles Runkle, 1837; George Roland, 1838; James Watson, 1838; Austin Shipp, 1839; Jared Bard, 1840; Alfred C. Thompson, 1842; Joseph Conrad, 1845, Hernon Kyle, 1846; William Griffin, 1847; Robert Dickey, 1847; John Roberts, 1847; John Clark, 1848; Joseph Wayland, 1849.

Austin Shipp, 1851; W. A. Morris, 1852; Theodore Hudnut, 1853; Dr. William Rush, 1855, James Wolfe, 1861; Joseph Deming, 1869; Matthew Duckworth, 1869; William Strawn, 1833; Edwin Hosford, 1886; Wm. Breeding, 1890; Frank Cutsinger 1894; William Downs, 1898; Walt Neible, 1906; Albert Mulkins, 1914; Samuel Haslam, 1926; John A. (Jack) Thompson, 1931, Dr. R. C. Mayhall, 1936; Clarence Ross, 1947; R. K. Auxier, 1949; Albert Wayne Kellams, 1959, Thomas R. Lain, 1961 and still serving in 1972.

Locations of the early post offices are uncertain, But Clifford Hamilton locates it as at 210 West Main Cross. Robert Workman in "Our Blue River Heritage" located it at the corner of Main and West Main Cross. Even so, just across the street on the south side was a stage coach stop so either location is likely, Courier news items refer to the post office at an oyster stand and lemonade counter along with light drygoods in the post office by Wm. H. Borry. This was in the A.C. Thompson Bldg. (Danner's) dated 1877. Then the post office was moved to a small room at rear of what is now the bank building. This in 1878. In 1894 it was located just east of the Commerical Hotel (Ellis Haslam building).

In 1898 the post office moved to the Odd



Box No. 166

To Edinburgh Post Office, Dr.

To Box Rent from Apr. 1 to Jun. 30, 1875 - $.25

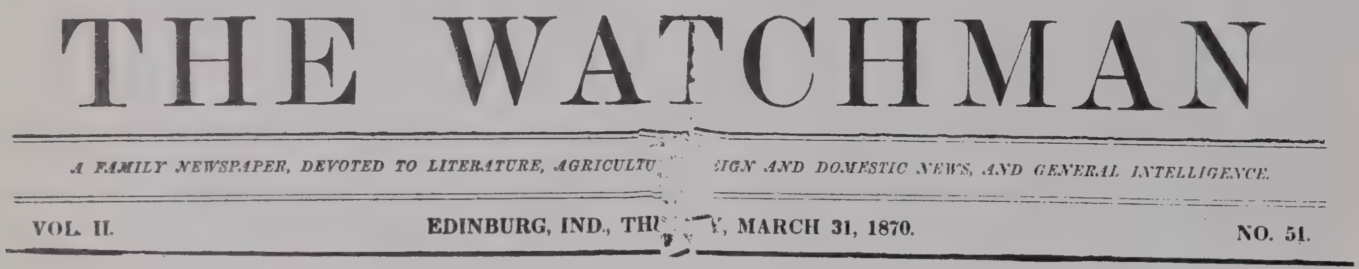
To Newspaper Postage - - - - - - - - - - -

Received Payment,

[illegible], P.M.

Fellows Building at 110 east Main Cross now occupied by Randolph Hardware. There it remained until 1946 when it was moved across the street in the room formerly occupied by Mutz Drug Store. This was the last move before moving into the new post office building.

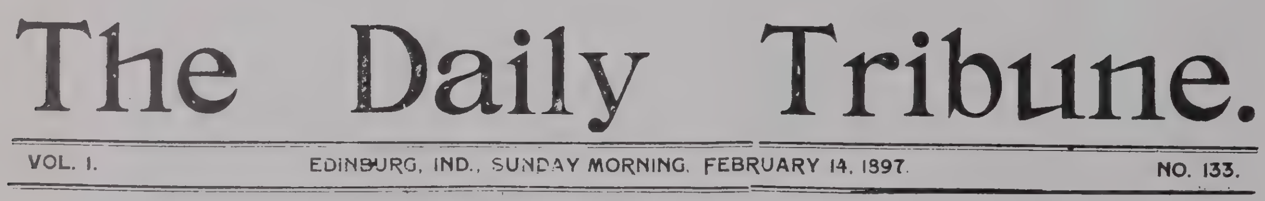
By 1907 there were six routes operating out of Edinburg: rural carriers were Nella Drybread, Thomas Woodard, Josephine Holcomb, James Stott, and Joseph Watson, Roscoe Barrett also was a longtime rural carrier.



THE WATCHMAN

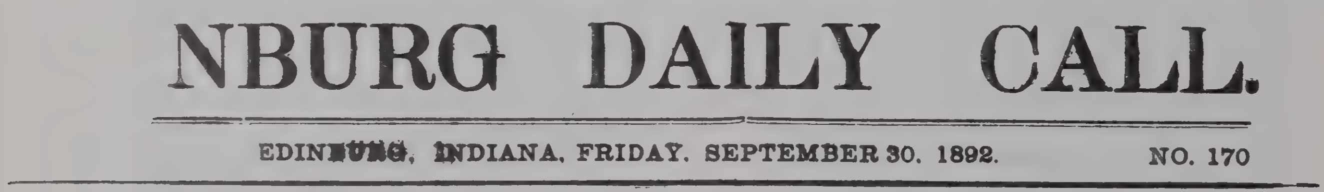
A FAMILY NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, AGRICULTU IGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

VOL. II. EDINBURG, IND., THU Y, MARCH 31, 1870. NO. 51.



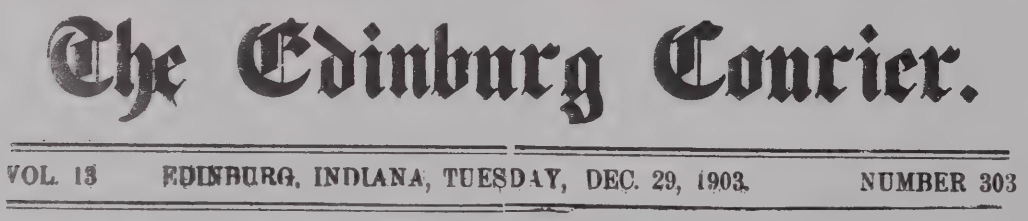
The Daily Tribune.

VOL. I. EDINBURG, IND., SUNDAY MORNING. FEBRUARY 14, 1897. NO. 133.



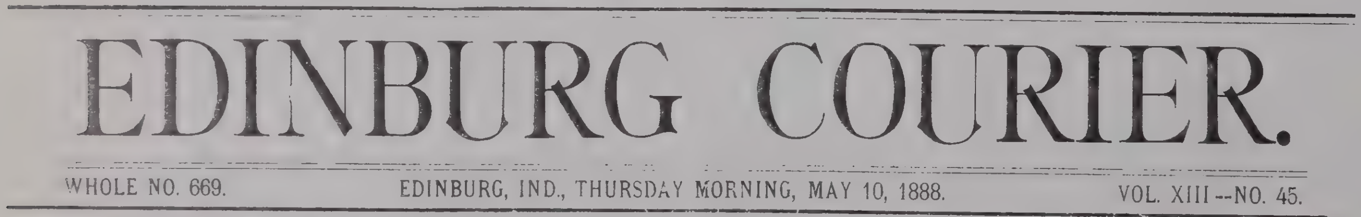
NBURG DAILY CALL.

EDINBURG, INDIANA, FRIDAY. SEPTEMBER 30. 1892. NO. 170



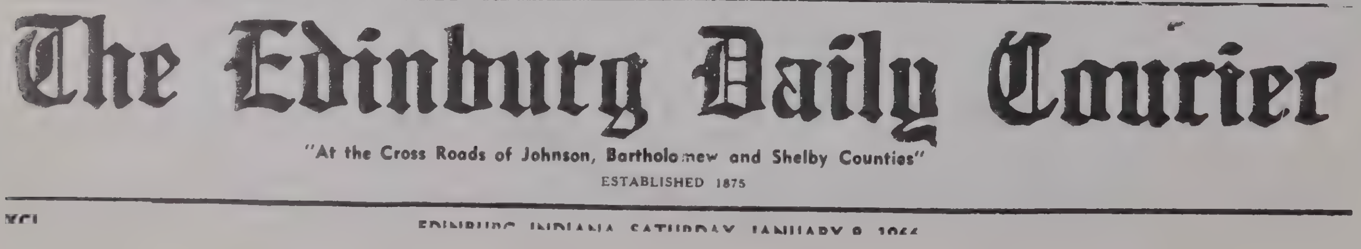
The Edinburg Courier.

VOL. 15 EDINBURG, INDIANA, TUESDAY, DEC. 29, 1903. NUMBER 303



EDINBURG COURIER.

WHOLE NO. 669. EDINBURG, IND., THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 10, 1888. VOL. XIII--NO. 45.



The Edinburg Daily Courier

"At the Cross Roads of Johnson, Bartholomew and Shelby Counties"

ESTABLISHED 1875

XCI EDINBURG, INDIANA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1966

The first newspaper in Edinburg was called The Edinburg Review, appearing in 1852, conducted by Joseph Hinkle (then one of the oldest printers in the Mississippi Valley). After several sheets with short lives appeared in 1868, D.H. Onley started The Watchman which he discontinued in 1873. Then there were a Chronicle, The Blue River Star before the Edinburg Courier was begun in 1875 by the Brown Brothers of Columbus who were over the Haslam Barbershop building. The Courier recorded the news and happenings in Edinburg for 95 years before it was closed in October of 1970 and combined with the Columbus Republic by Home News Enterprises who had bought the paper. Through the years it became part of the community and several editors have spent enthusiastic years in improving the paper. E.M. Hardy with a partner, H.C. Allison of Franklin for a year was an outstanding newspaper man who published it as a weekly paper in 1877. In 1890 Harvey Allison bought the Courier and moved to Edinburg beginning 50 years in the Allison family. Mr. Allison built the brick building on south Holland street which was its home until 1970. The Courier had earlier been over the Tasty Shop and at the back of the bank building. A daily sheet, The Call, was published at the Courier office and Mr. Allison combined the two beginning the Edinburg Daily Courier. By 1910, E.C. Allison, his son, bought out his father and in 1913 the Courier was sold to W.T. Thompson, D.K. Stewart and Walter Neible. The next year Mr. Allison bought back the paper and he and his son, Harvey Allison, published the daily until 1945. It was bought that year after World War II by Francis Otto and his wife, Sarah Otto. They published the paper until 1966 when it was sold to the Edinburg Publishing Co. Inc., Chicago-based investors who "were interested in owning small daily newspapers." William Hale served as their editor. Successively it was sold to Sarkes-Tarzian and in 1970 to Home News who combined it with The Republic.

The Courier in its 95 years faithfully recorded the news and attempted to accomplish good for the community. Strangers in Edinburg wondered at a daily paper in a town so small. At one time the town was considered the smallest town in the United States to have a daily paper. Edinburg now has a weekly shopper, Tri-County Enterprise, published by Joe McMillan and James Dewar.

The Daily Tribune of 1897 was really a daily. Notice the Sunday morning issue of Feb. 14, 1897.

EDINBURG FAIRS AND RACES

The Edinburg Courier of Aug. 1877 relates that the Edinburg Agricultural Association would hold its 18th annual fair on Sept. 18-19-20 and 21st. This makes the Edinburg Fair begun in 1859 along with the Indiana State Fair in age. The first fairgrounds was located east of Grant street, north of Main Cross street and west of Clay street (Don Graham home). The fairgrounds was not very large outside the space for the race track. The town and surrounding country soon outgrew the fairgrounds and the association moved east to just across the Shelby County line, purchasing 80 acres from Jane Kyle Pruitt, half of which later was sold and the remainder fitted up with the necessary buildings and accessories of a fairgrounds including a Floral Hall, agricultural building, stables, and a one-half mile track. The association was governed by a board of directors, two from Johnson, two from Bartholomew and two from Brown County. Fairs were held and exhibits of agricultural and horticultural products exhibited. By the 1890's the fair had died out and a three-day race meet held each year. During the 1890's the Fair Asso-

The Midway around 1890

Coming into the home stretch

ciation ran into financial trouble and in 1898 the grounds were sold to Milton Pruitt, grandfather of Harold Pruitt who lives on the property now. The Edinburg Racing Association, another organization, promoted a three-day racing meet each year. People came from far and wide to attend the Edinburg races and old-timers can remember the cry from Beal's Hotel corner downtown. "Hack for the Fairgrounds, going right out." It was only a half mile to the fairgrounds so there was a steady stream of walkers out Main Cross street. Just inside was the Midway and beyond, the track. The Racing Association lasted until the early 20's. Then Jack Amos, owner and lover of racing horses, leased the grounds and the races continued until 1929 in Edinburg when the county fairs drew the crowd away.

Mr. and Mrs. Pruitt still have the starting bell, and remnants of the stables can be seen there.

In its early history as well as today Edinburg was what might be called a "horsey" town. Many early settlers came from Kentucky and it was natural for horse breeders and racing to be popular in Edinburg. There have been many outstanding racers from Edinburg.

One of the early outstanding racers was Red Cloud owned by James Wade, grandfather of Mrs. Bice Roth, and driven by John Wade. Red Cloud who attracted attention as early as 1871, won the fastest five-heat race ever trotted at Buffalo, N.Y., setting a world record in 1874. Toward the end of that year he contracted a lameness that kept him off the track for the rest of his life. He was kept in Edinburg and in 1881 he broke loose and gorged himself. He is buried in the backyard of Mr. Wade's home, then at the corner of Walnut and Center Cross, in a grove of trees back of the second house from the corner. A race track was at the starch works lot where Mr. Wade trained his horse.

Another track with stables was at the old Bradley farm on Sugar Creek. Edinburg has had several drivers. Newt Parsley who used to drive at the county fairs and Clay who was in circuit racing.

Today Frost Hill Farms is the home of two world champions, Scott Frost, world champion trotter, and Dale Frost, world champion pacer, owned by the late Roy Amos.

RICH FARMLAND

In the beginning large areas of ground were owned by the early settlers around Edinburg and they became a part of Edinburg life.

Alexander Breeding of an early pioneer family locating just southwest of Edinburg (old Legion Home on Eisenhower Drive) farmer and stock-raiser, had large holdings, and a part of the land was sold to the Town of Edinburg for a cemetery. Also when Alexander Thompson, one of founders of Edinburg, first came to Blue River he first built a more substantial residence near the residence of Alexander Breeding.

Residents of Edinburg kept cows and many of them pastured their cows on the Breeding farm at one time. Mr. Breeding married Rebekah Ann Thompson.

Large areas of land were owned by Nathan Kyle south of Edinburg (Kyle family living there today) and his land in Johnson County lay east of Kyle street (named for him) and south of Main Cfoss. By 1836 he had bought the John Campbell estate of 80 acres lying east of Walnut and south of the first alley south of Main Cross street to the county line and adjoining to his own land to the east. A daughter, Minerva Oaks, inherited 32 acres of the south portion of this eighty.

Mose Pruitt entered land (the Mrs. A. S. Willard home east of Edinburg) in 1820 and Pleasant Pruitt, Sr., his son, built that house, had a brick yard where the tenant house used to be located, (Grandfather of Mrs. Reba Gephart). Most of the brick used in the buildings of Downtown Edinburg were burned at that brick yard. A "Pruitt town" is spoken of east of Edinburg where rows of tenant houses were built. Another son, John Jacob Pruitt, and grandfather of Henry Pruitt, married Jane Kyle. When he died in 1861, he had 2,200 acres from Grant street east to the Shelby County line extending to Blue River. Their home was located on the almost exact spot of the present East Side Elementary School. A son of Pleasant, Sr., Alexander Pruitt, continued the brick yard, moved into Edinburg at the northwest corner of Grant and Main Cross with a Pruitt row of houses lining the west side of Grant street. Another son, Milton Pruitt, grandfather of Harold Pruitt, farmed the present Burbrink farm south of Edinburg and the fairgrounds. Lands of the Pruitts lay south of Edinburg as they do today (John Pruitt).

Samuel Cutsinger was another big farmer, north east of Edinburg just across the Shelby County line (where brick house was torn down this summer). As a farmer and stock raiser Mr. Cutsinger at one time owned 1,800 acres. His son, Martin, continued the large farm interests and entered his father's

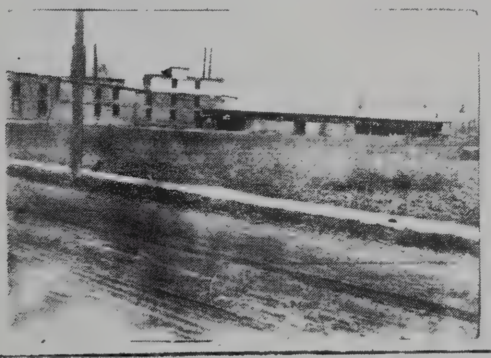
Starch factory business. The Cutsinger home was the present funeral home on Main Cross street. Samuel Cutsinger had obtained that property from Claiborne Williams, parents of Charity Williams who married Martin Cutsinger. So, the property where Dale Mutz lived and had his funeral business has been owned by both of his great grandparents.

George Cutsinger and John M. Cutsinger were large farmers and stock raisers and both lived north on the Shelby County Line Road.

To the north are the Russell farms. Alexander Russell, great grandfather of Russell Stott, was born in Shelby County in 1818, and was the first white child born in Shelby County. His first wife was Susan Cutsinger and second wife Mary Durbin. A large amount of land was accumulated.

Gather B. Runkle was a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Blue River Township born in Bartholomew County in 1834. His son, John W. Runkle, born in 1863, after receiving an education in Pharmacy returned to the farm and set out a large orchard improving the farm. This is the beginning of the Runkle orchards lying north of Edinburg today. Mr. Runkle married Lola Miner in 1893. Their three children have farmed the orchards, Lewis, the late Byran Runkle, and Miss Monta Runkle.

J.P. Townsend, son of Joseph Townsend, a pioneer who came to what is now Edinburg in 1820, owned farm land north of Edinburg now belonging to the Lawrence Wertz family. Land surrounding Edinburg to the northwest was once the old Durbin farm.



Ladoga Canning Co.

CANNING FACTORY

Edinburg was blessed with rich fertile farmland and with one of its main crops, corn, led the Starch Factory for its products. Many residents can remember after the organization of the Naomi Canning Company in 1911 the lines of wagons on Shelby Ave. loaded with corn, farmers waiting their turn at the canning factory in the north part of town on Naomi street.

The canning factory was organized by F. F. Wiley, Dr. R. C. Mayhall, Walter Neivle Dr. J. P. Myers, Roscoe Mutz, Howard Mutz and James Mayfield. The company also was known as the Edinburg Canning Co., and had different labels for their products. The biggest pack was corn and then tomatoes, although peas, beans, and kraut were at one time packed. Mr. Wiley was the first superintendent and G. Ray Mutz was superintendent for many years. The pack usually lasted through July, August, and September Others working at the canning factory over many years were Rye Mathis, foreman, Monk Morgan, factory superintendent, Loree Davis in the office, Frank Brannan, foreman, Merrill Pruitt, Clarence Wilson, James Phillips; and Mrs. Homer Owens and Mrs. James F. Smith, floor ladies.

In 1931 Morgan Packing Co., of Scottsburg and Austin bought the Edinburg plant During World War II prisoners of war at Camp Atterbury cut off a great source of farmland in obtaining contracts for corn and tomatoes and finally Morgan sold to Inland Container. The building now is owned by D. R. Webb.

STEVE SCHON,
Baker and Confectioner,
Main Cross Street,
Edinburg, - - - Indiana.

Cakes, Candies & Nuts

Furnished pic-nics, parties or festivals at reasonable prices. Also cakes iced and ornamented for parties and weddings.

OYSTERS

Of the very best brands will be kept, constantly arriving from the eastern market, hence always fresh, will be served in any style on short notice,

Raw, Stewed or Fried,

☞Or for sale in cans at Reasonable Prices.

LIFE AT FROST FARM

EDINBURG AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

"Life has been wonderful to me. I have enjoyed the living of it up to the limit and I would not have missed any of it for anything. And so, dear reader, bear with me as I tell you about it, as it has been told to me by those who were old when I was young, as they had it from their forebearers and as I have learned of it from the archives."

So Clifford Hamilton, native of Edinburg, begun the story of his life set in early days on Thompson West street, Frost Farm, the Edinburg he saw in his boyhood days. The autobiography was only begun when it came to a stop but what he has remembered and written for history is a tale worth printing excerpts of in this Sesquicentennial year of our town.

Within that part of town west of Pleasant, south to the Bartholomew County line were several additions but the one I can remember best was "Keeley Town" so-called It had been platted by Dr. Isaac Keeley who accumulated a comfortable estate through his remedy to save victims of liquor from drinking themselves out of circulation in this world and into the next. At the west side of town was Thompson's West street but to those who lived there it was "Greasy Row." Like a lot of nicknames it came into being without any particular reason. It was on this street that I became a citizen of Edinburg Town, Aug. 17, 1892, at the beginning of the "Gay Nineties." I wasn't old enough to appreciate it and I am sure that the good people of Thompson West never gave it a thought. This was because by the time the gayety had filtered down to us it was too weak to cheer us very much.

We did not stay very long on Thompson West, first moving over on Blue River behind the big mill and then to a house across the road from the present location of Blue River Park Addition. At that time the addition was a cow pasture. There was a cooper shop just east of us presided over by Dave Mitchell where they made barrels for packing flour at the mill.

We did not stay here very long. My father took the job of taking care of the country home of Homer F. Frost. The Frost farm was located just east of Edinburg about one half mile beyond the Johnson-Shelbyville line on State Road 252 and it was there that I enjoyed the happiest years of childhood. The house stood on the hill overlooking Edinburg and, at certain time of year, you could see the golden Cross atop the steeple of the little church that stood on the hill behind the town at the west end of Main Cross street and then over and beyond the town, were the hills of Brown County rolling and tumbling over each other until they lost themselves in the hazy distance. (You've seen it as you come into Edinburg.)

It was a big two-story house with high ceilings with fireplaces scattered throughout the house. One of the things that I remember well was the servant's call. It was a bell mounted on a coil spring on the kitchen wall. This was connected with a rope that came down from the ceiling in the dining room where Mr. Frost sat at the table. He would always give thanks for what we were about to receive and then he would give the bell a yank and the service would begin.

We lived on a large farm but my father did no farming. His only concern was the upkeep of the place. This was no inconsiderable item as Mr. Frost insisted that everything be kept in good repair. The tillable ground was rented out to the Snepps and Mullendores who were related to Mrs. Frost.

My earliest recollections of Mr. and Mrs. Frost were that they were both very aristocratic and dignified. Mr. Frost himself was a general agent of the Big Four at Louisville, Ky., and during the summer was home only on weekends. In the summer Mrs. Frost always remained on the farm during the week and I came in contact with her every day. She used to take my hand and in the cool of the morning walk back and forth on the brick walk west of the house speaking of this as her daily constitutional. It was years later that I learned you could absorb a constitutional without so much walking.

When we had no visitors we always ate with them in the big dining room but when they had visitors we ate by ourselves in the kitchen where we always ate in the winter when we closed off the rest of the house.

During the winter Mr. and Mrs. Frost often came up for the weekend and, when they did, Mr. Frost always said that it was too much trouble to get everything out of storage for so short a time and that they would eat with us in the kitchen. By and large it was a wonderful part of life.

A lot of things happened before and during the time we lived on the Frost place. First of all we had a panic in '93 that put a crimp on a lot of folks. The Big Mill never stopped entirely in its grinding and my Dad stayed with it until we moved to the country in '96. The Gay Nineties were running right along. Of course the profits of those years stayed at the top. Wages were low and hours long but my father managed to get hold of a house and lot in Edinburg and get it paid for so that when he died in 1901 my Mother had a home to go to.

Along about 1896 we were right in the middle of the "Ta, Ra, Ra, Boom Der E!" days. Mr. Frost was always singing the chorus but Mrs. Frost could sing it all.

In the spring of 1901 the world crashed down around us. My father had never been a robust man and an attack of pneumonia in March of that year did him in. When he died he was a member of two lodges, the Red Men and Odd Fellows. At that time when a member died, it was the custom to have the Edinburg Mechanic's Band head the procession from the house or church to the Grave Yard. In our case it was too far out of town for the band to march the entire distance so we were met at the east edge of town and were escorted to the last resting place. So we went across town riding in horse-drawn cabs that were always furnished by the local livery stable.

A couple of days later we moved to the Center Cross street address using the same three horse wagon from the Big Mill that had taken us to the country in the first place. My Mother and I were lonesome and we spent a lot of time on south Pleasant street with my maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Myers. More than 60 years have gone since then but some of the names who lived around there remain clear in my mind.

Starting in at Thompson street where it goes up to the school house was the home of Joseph Richardson. He was a tumbler for Cole Bros. A square south of him on the west side was the home of Bill Williams and back of him on Keeley lived George Carter. Across the street from Bill was the home of William "Bipp" Thompson who ran a drygoods store up town. South of the Williams house were the home of Uncle John Perry and Jarvis Brant. Across the street from the Brant house was the many gabled home of Henry Pate. Henry had two daughters, both teachers.

Across the street on the south side of Perry street lived Corporal Barker. South of him was William Schwehm, James Thomas, George Pile and Allen Oaks. On the west side of the street were John Deer and then Joseph Freese. Back of Joe on the same side of the street was William (Bipp) Freese my grandfather Myers, Oswell Mason, Uddie Green, Joseph Watson, Nicholas Grandstaff, "Doad" Olmstead and Dave LeFever.

Back of LeFever on Thompson West and Keeley street were William Gaddis, "Crow" LeFever, William Byers, Charles Breeding, John Stivers and William Kenton.

In the summer of 1903 I felt that I was big enough and old enough to get a job so I started out as a paper boy carrying the Edinburg Courier. The town was divided into two routes and mine was south covering everything on Pleasant street and west and everything north on Kyle and east of the railroad. At that time Charlie Breeding's farm covered everything west of Thompson west. No one lived south of the county line in Green Acres or Cuba.

East of the railroad, Breeding's Addition was still farmland and on north of that, White's Woods, the town's old picnic ground, (Meadow Village) was still a part of the Breeding farm. North of Main Cross all of that part of town east of Grant street was still farmland. Center Cross Street was open but not used as it did not go anywhere. It was still in grass and several of the good citizens living along Main Cross street kept their cows tied out there. It was handier and a bit cheaper than to rent pasture at the Fair Grounds and hire some boy to drive them back and forth.

As I have written, everything east of Grant street was farmland. There was not a sign of a house out there, north to what is now Road 252 and east to the Shelby County Line.

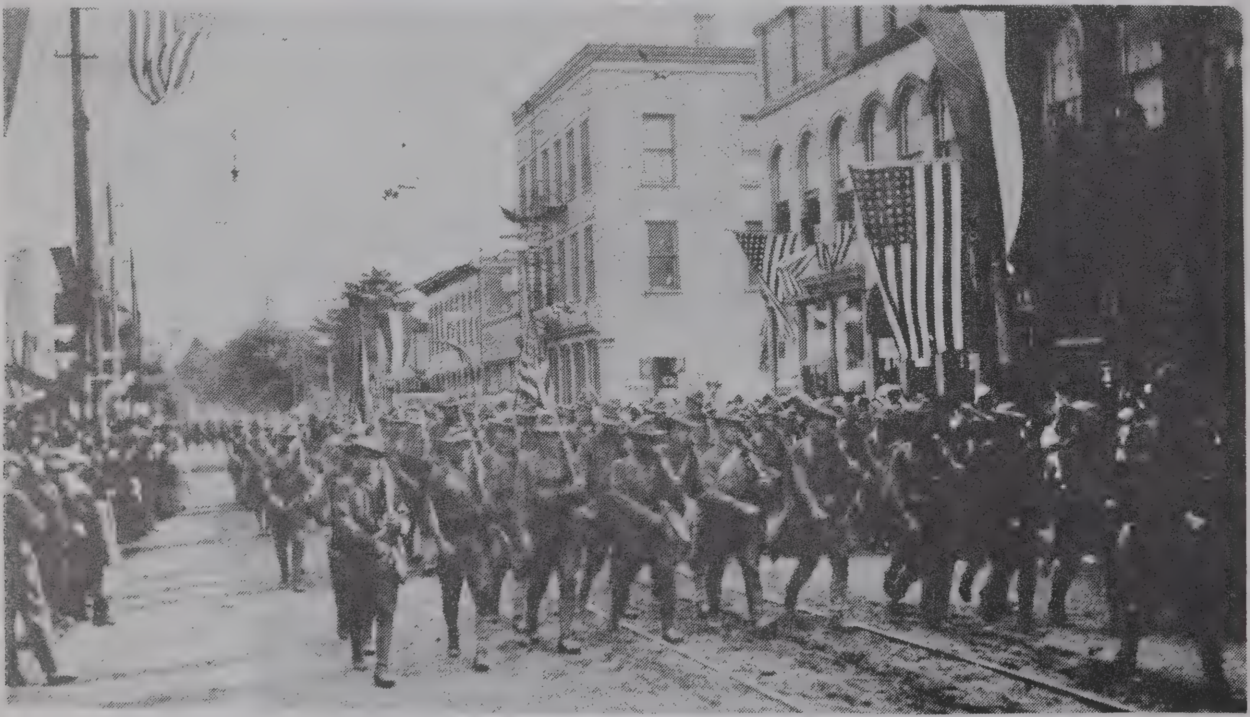
When we moved from the country into Edinburg in 1901 Edinburg was far different from what it is today. To start with, it was much smaller. In the Census of 1900 the year before we moved back into town, the population was listed at 1,820 souls.

Another thing, it was much lower then than now. Its condition could well have been described as saying that "in most locations it was low while in others it was lower." It is hard to get folks who did not live here at that time to understand what a problem water and mud can be certain times of the year.

When my grandfather came to town in 1896 there was a low swag in Kyle street from Center Cross to Thompson and there was a pond back of the depot. At one time the town school was at Grant and Main Cross and when it burned down the reason for not rebuilding there was that the students (all from the west part of town) had trouble getting across Kyle street in wet weather. (Foot bridge there.)

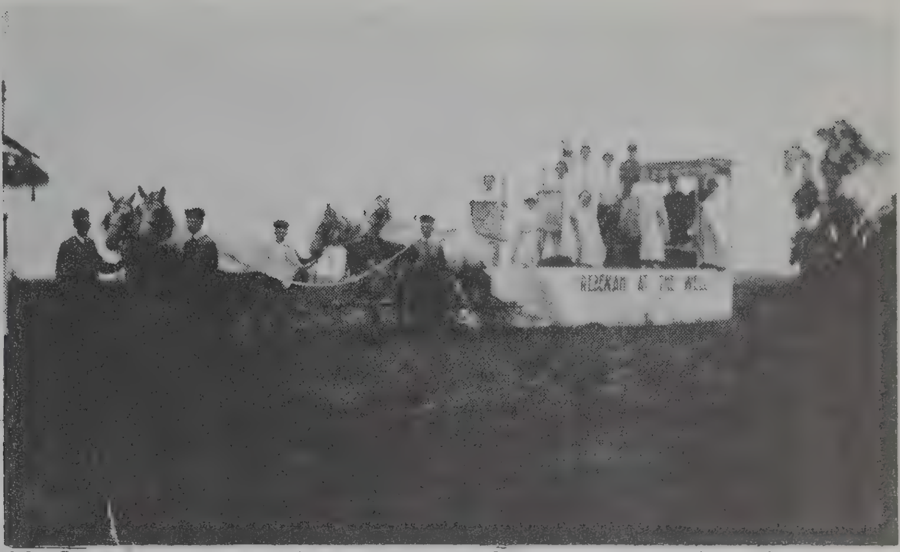
The first winter that the interurban ran down Kyle street they had one of the cars get "drowned out" in the water and that is one of the reasons why Kyle street got itself "raised up." The traction company proceeded to fill up the street so they could get the cars through in bad weather.

During the next few years I was gradually growing up. I did not realize it at the time but I was going through the most wonderful time of my life. During these years the Interurban came into town and went on to Columbus and Seymour and that opened up the world to us. For eighty-five cents one could make a round trip to Indianapolis, go to Franklin and Columbus for twenty cents or thirty cents for the round trip.

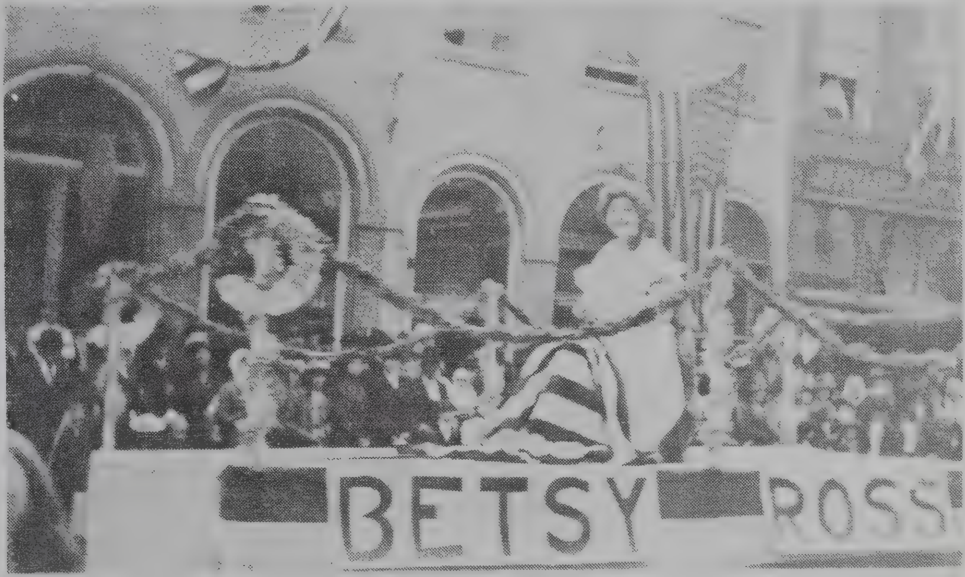


This picture made in 1911 showing the 10th Infantry going through town to Fairgrounds for overnight camp. Regt. was enroute to French Lick for rifle practice. Regt. was based at Ft. Benjamin Harrison. The town ladies entertained the boys with lunch that day.

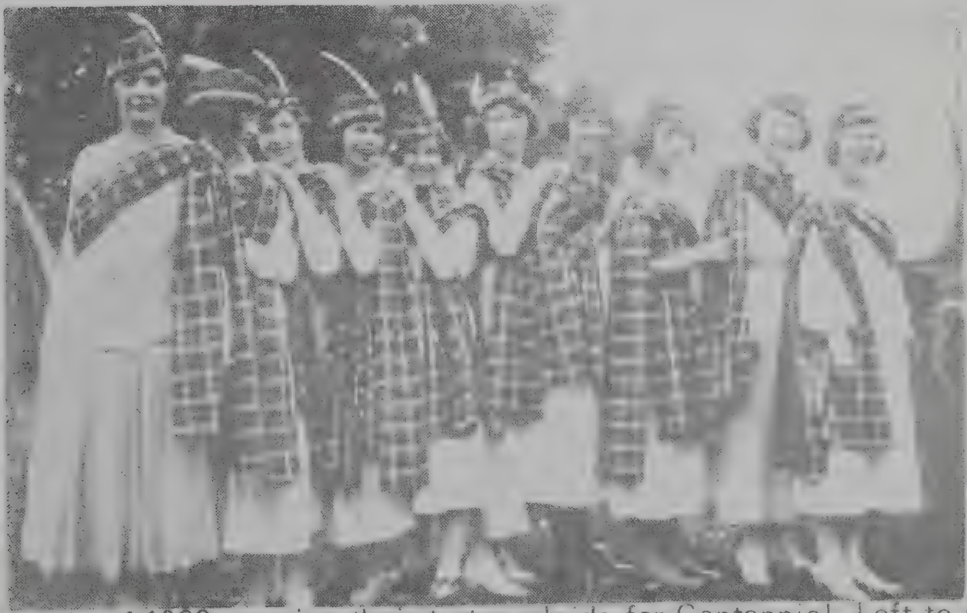
EDINBURG CENTENNIAL FLOATS
1922



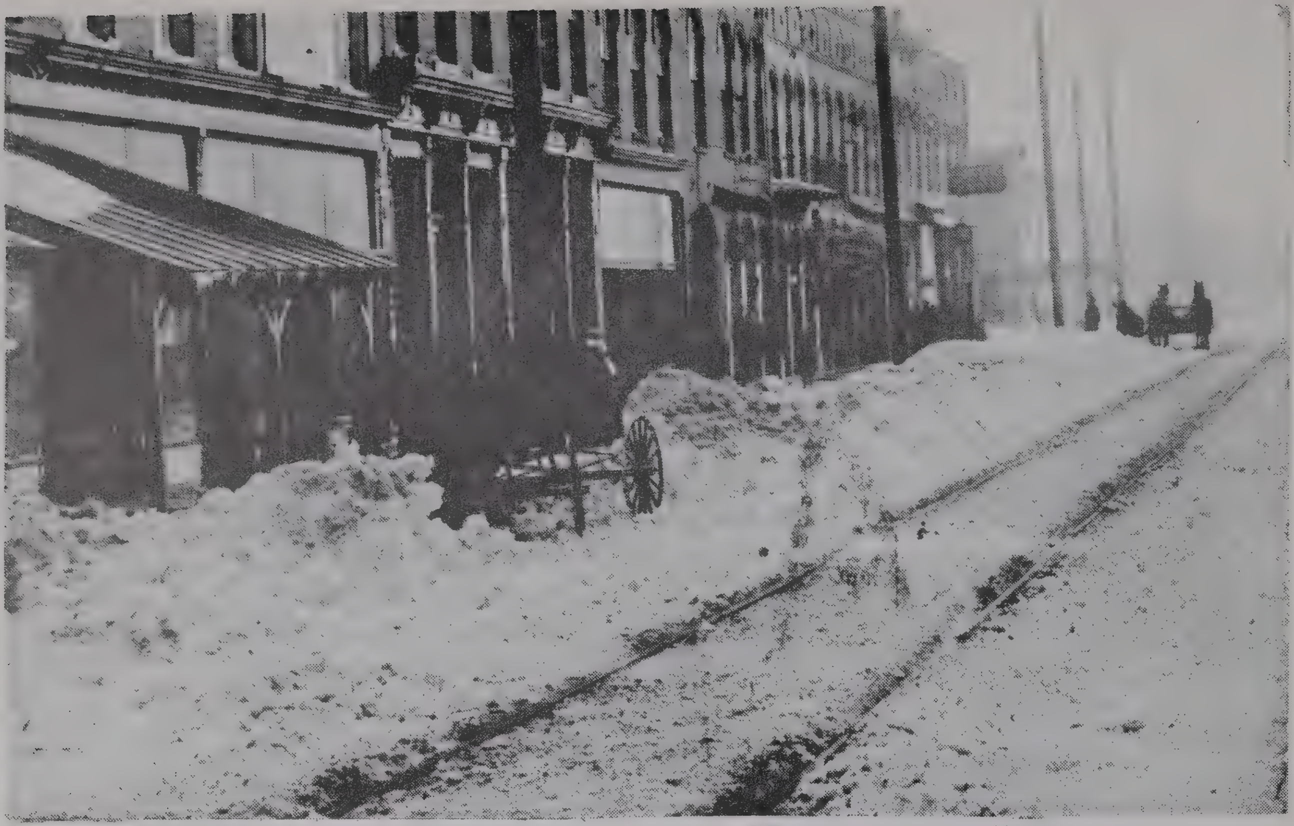
Rebekah Lodge float in 1922 Centennial parade was one of the outstanding floats. Mrs. James Garrison was Rebekah at the Well, George Owens and James Garrison are holding horses. Other men are Roscoe Dragoo and Sam Stine. Other women on the float are Mrs. Owens, Mrs. Fayette Wright, Mrs. Lawrence Stilabower, Miss Ruby VanGilder, Mrs. Frank Bozell, Mrs. Sam Stine, and Mrs. J. V. Baker.



Mrs. Evelyn Mutz Breeding on Betsy Ross float.



Edinburg girls of 1922 wearing their tartan plaids for Centennial. Left to right: Pauline Weaver Compton, Reba Hatton, Helen Stewart, Mildred Haslam Roth, Marjorie Mutz, Katherine Broderick, Fay Wright Stilabower, Hazel Johnson, Mary Ann Porter Hunter, Hattie Myers Creal.



Main Cross street showing Nickelo west of Arch Alley

NICKELOS AND MOVIES

It was around 1902 to 1905 when the first shows came to Edinburg, Wilbur Parkhurst of Franklin showed color slides of "The Great Train Robbery" as Herbert Downs sang. This was located on south Holland street. The next picture show was located where the Post Office is now on south Walnut street run by John Selik of near Madison. Hattie Thompson sold tickets. Mr. Selik owned an Edison phonograph with a large horn and before the show Orville Thompson cranked the phonograph to attract the crowds from the main street.

The third movie house was owned by Acie Mayhew. Mr. Thompson tells that when Mr. Mayhew moved to Edinburg with his equipment he lived on Meridian street in Indianapolis. Mr. Thompson and his father, Ren, used two wagons, pulled up on Meridian street and moved the movie equipment to Edinburg locating east of the Arch Alley on Main Cross. Mr. Mayhew then started the Airdome on the lot at the railroad on the south side on Main Cross. There was a third movie in town about 1912 to 1915 near the Sherman Barbershop. Of course there was no sound so piano players played music for the occasion and singers entertained at intermission. Two of the outstanding piano players at the early picture shows, Mrs. Bernice Breeding and Mrs. Vera Warner, began as young girls. The two are outstanding accompanists today. Before World War I a Nickelo was near the Winterberg store on the south side of Main Cross and Clarence Porter had a Nickelo west of the Arch Alley. All the early movies were called Nickelodeons because of the five cent admission.

About 1919 the Lyric was in the Danner west building today. Bob Dunavent ran the show, sang during intermission. He was a real entertainer, was the first showman to use a spotlight, and to snap out the rythmn with his fingers.

Clarence Porter ran the Majestic west of the Arch Alley and later Allen Bradley who moved the movie to the Masonic Temple. Sometime later Russell Yater of Osgood came to Edinburg and was proprietor of the show. This was before the time sound was put on film and only a record was used for sound and often was not synchronized with the movie.

Byce Sconce of Edinburg, owner of the Pixy Theatre, entered the movie business in 1935. At one time before the advent of television Mr. and Mrs. Sconce owned seven theatres, in Edinburg, Greenwood, Greenfield, Brownsburg, and four in Indianapolis.

In the first Mechanics Band were John Nicholson, director, Charlie Nicholson, Jim Rubush, Jim Mullen, Will Watson, Roy Bogie, Charlie VanDorn, Warren McCarger, John Roth, Homer Breeding, Frank Winterberg and Ray Mutz.

THE COMING OF CAMP ATTERBURY

A historical booklet on Edinburg has to include the coming of Camp Atterbury one-half mile west of Edinburg in 1942.

The planning stages of an Army training center near Edinburg were begun in 1941 but no news of the camp's coming was announced until 1942 when 55,000 acres of the best farming land was to be turned into a training center. Some farmers were given only 10 days' notice to move. The U.S. Government was paying a small $88 to $113 an acre for this land. After the announcement of the camp's coming in January of 1942 families were moved out, the entire village of Kansas moved out, the old homes razed, 1,800 separate buildings were built, and the first troops were at Camp Atterbury by June of 1942. The famed 83rd Division was reactivated at Camp Atterbury.

A deluge of workers descended on Edinburg with 6,000 to 8,000 workers at the peak of construction trying to find quarters to live and food to eat. The Courier reported daily, "Several hundred new persons moved into Edinburg today." All available extra bedrooms, back porches, storerooms, garages were rented to house the Atterbury workers and later soldiers and their wives. Crowds in the grocery stores at the close of the day were so thick no one could move. Early mornings saw lines of workers standing in line to buy packed lunches at the restaurants. Dewey Manuel, in charge of sugar rationing, reported 4,328 had registered for sugar rationing cards. Normal population of Edinburg was 2,466, a jump of 1,862 people. There were 30 operators at the Edinburg Bell exchange. Later a switchboard was installed at Camp Atterbury but all long-distance calls were handled through Edinburg. The town gained a few permanent residents from those who came to camp. Ross Buck was chief engineer in layout the camp. Luke Akers worked under him. Both families made their home here as did others and several soldiers made their homes here later.

Edinburg saw all its young men go to war. No family was excepted. Clarence Wilson was the first to be called under the Selective Service Act. The town experienced sugar, gasoline rationing, blackouts practice. A USO building was located in the Kellams building. Camp Atterbury was the site of Wakeman General Hospital, one of the three largest Army hospitals in the U.S.. Edinburg girls were working in the offices at Camp Atterbury, women in the factories at home. Red Cross units were trained and formed such as the Motor Corps, Canteen Corps, Grey Ladies to help at the hospital.

Almost two years from the day it was announced Atterbury would be located at Edinburg it was announced that after March 1, 1944, there would be no more training of soldiers at the camp. The general hospital was kept open but the camp was finally closed only to be reopened in 1950 during the Korean War and closed again.

Now the camp has the Indiana Military Academy (National Guard) and the Atterbury Job Corps training center has its headquarters in the old Wakeman General Hospital.

There were mixed feelings about the camp. Most people were heartbroken that the camp caused them to loose their homes. Others said that if Camp Atterbury had not come, they would still be buried on a farm.

The old Galt House Hotel built on east Thompson in 1870.

DOCTORS

The town in the 1880's was well taken care of having nine doctors at one time: R. P. Hazzard and J. T. Brenton, J. A. Bland, S. T. Quick, S. Voris, Dr. W. P. Rush, Joseph Saddler, D. R. Malone, D. Adams.

One dentist, J. T. Burton.

At another time, through the 1900's to 1950, there were Drs. Middleton and Bice, Dr. J. P. Myers, Dr. Grant Lind, Dr. J. V. Baker, Early dentists were Dr. Jenks and Dr. Hinshaw, and later Dr. R. C. Mayhall.

After 1945 other doctors were Dr. Edward Janjigian, Dr. Don Manuel, Dr. C. F. Deppe, Drs. Elleman and Earnhart, Dr. Lloyd Gammell, Dr. Stogsdol, Dr. Wiesman and today's doctor, Dr. Francisco Deogracias.

SOCIAL LIFE IN EDINBURG

In pouring over old Couriers and programs of events which have occurred through the years one will find that people in Edinburg liked to get together then as much as the present generation.

Edinburg was musically included. There were no T.V.'s then and it was the custom to get together at a home, everyone played an instrument, and play through the afternoon. Edinburg had a Ladies Matinee Musicale organization as early as 1890 and it must have been a large organization for there were at least three different sections or circles. In one section were Misses Maley and Thompson, Mrs. Kremer, Mrs. Mutz, Mrs. J.T. Thompson, Mrs. John Nicholson, Miss Sims, Mrs. Owen Moffett, Misses Florence and Josephine Thompson, Mrs. Oscar Mutz, Misses Maley and Otto. On another program were Mrs. L.W. Owen, Mrs. T.J. Moffett, Mrs. S.O. Bice, Mrs. John A. Thompson, Misses Deming, Landis and Kremer.

Another Matinee Musicale was organized in 1915.

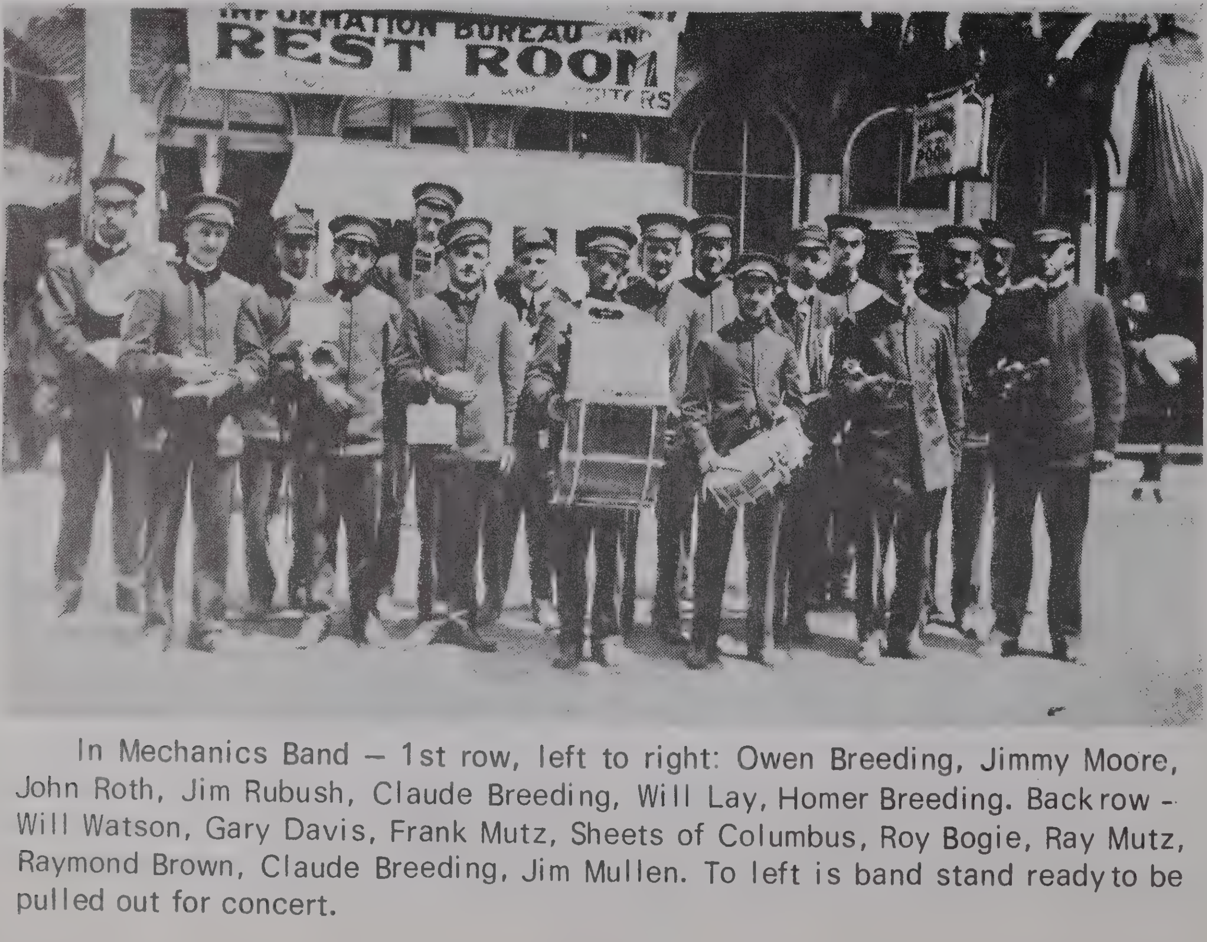
There was a cornet band. In a notice of the Courier of 1873 "The Edinburg cornet band with due appreciation of our patriotism, on the evening of the 3rd of July favored the Courier office with an excellent serenade and among the choice music they favored us with was a kind of Hail Columbia-Yankee Doodle medley. The call was duly appreciated."

A.C. Thompson played in the famous Franklin Military Band (1883).

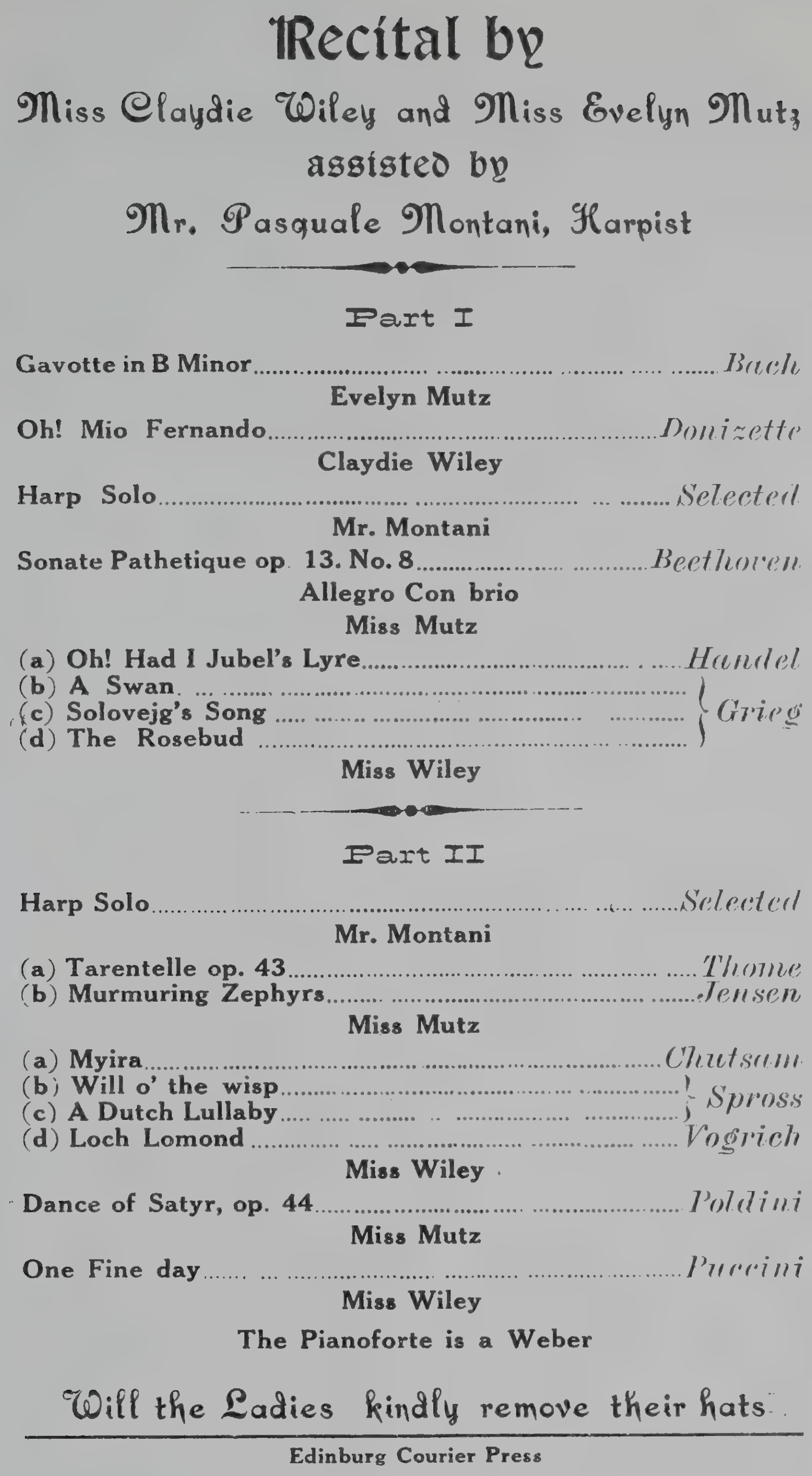
It was the custom at the time of funerals to have a band lead the funeral procession from the church to the cemetery. When John A. Thompson died in 1886, the funeral procession was headed by the Masonic Band of Franklin. C.C. Hamilton relates the Edinburg Mechanics Band led the funeral procession of his father in 1901 through town to the cemetery.

By 1910 Edinburg had an orchestra conducted by Ray Mutz with members from Nineveh, Franklin, and Columbus included. Concerts were given at the Opera House, lower floor of the Masonic Temple. Among the members were Will Watson, Ray Mutz, John Roth, James Rubush, Frank and Harold Mutz, Frank Winterberg, Dollie Wirey, Evelyn Mutz Breeding, Mr. Marshall. Mr. Ray Mutz was a talented musician and directed the Town and High School bands for years. He often entered the high school bands in state contests and under his direction they were excellent bands. He directed the high school band through 1932.

Chautauquas were held each summer in Breeding's Woods (east Thompson street) and these gatherings (for education mixed with entertainment) brought speakers of note to



In Mechanics Band – 1st row, left to right: Owen Breeding, Jimmy Moore, John Roth, Jim Rubush, Claude Breeding, Will Lay, Homer Breeding. Back row – Will Watson, Gary Davis, Frank Mutz, Sheets of Columbus, Roy Bogie, Ray Mutz, Raymond Brown, Claude Breeding, Jim Mullen. To left is band stand ready to be pulled out for concert.



Recital by

Miss Claydie Wiley and Miss Evelyn Mutz
assisted by
Mr. Pasquale Montani, Harpist

Part I

Gavotte in B Minor .... *Bach*
Evelyn Mutz
Oh! Mio Fernando .... *Donizette*
Claydie Wiley
Harp Solo .... *Selected*
Mr. Montani
Sonate Pathetique op. 13. No. 8 .... *Beethoven*
Allegro Con brio
Miss Mutz
(a) Oh! Had I Jubel's Lyre .... *Handel*
(b) A Swan ....
(c) Solovejg's Song .... } *Grieg*
(d) The Rosebud ....
Miss Wiley

Part II

Harp Solo .... *Selected*
Mr. Montani
(a) Tarentelle op. 43 .... *Thome*
(b) Murmuring Zephyrs .... *Jensen*
Miss Mutz
(a) Myira .... *Chutsam*
(b) Will o' the wisp ....
(c) A Dutch Lullaby .... } *Spross*
(d) Loch Lomond .... *Vogrich*
Miss Wiley
Dance of Satyr, op. 44 .... *Poldini*
Miss Mutz
One Fine day .... *Puccini*
Miss Wiley
The Pianoforte is a Weber

Will the Ladies kindly remove their hats.

Edinburg Courier Press

Edinburg for appearances, among them William Jennings Bryan.

Stock companies played Edinburg every year appearing at The Opera House, in tents on at least two different vacant lots, at the Starch Factory and on the Commons east of the depot. Perennial favorites were "East Lynn" and "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Circuses came regularly to Edinburg each summer and also a ferris wheel was brought over from Hope and located on south Holland street on a vacant lot across from the Courier building.

Dr. R.C. Mayhall, dentist, was the director of the local minstrel shows for years presented at the Opera House (where Pixy Theatre is) and drawing large crowds.

By the way the Opera House seats were removable for dances and many an evening was spent there "tripping the light fantastic." One of the clubs was The Black Cat Club going good about 1915.

Washington Hall, over the Frank Winterberg grocery and A.W. Winterberg Shoe Store on south side of Main Cross, was a favorite place for the stock companies and social events. Pruitt Hall (over the present Barrett building and famous arch alley to the west) was another hall for social events.

A writer cannot portray the social life of a past era with the correct feeling or describe the elegance of the setting or ensembles worn half as well as the events were related by the editor in the Couriers of those days. I have included a few items of note.

Social Items

July 13, 1878 - The annual reunion of the Thompson and Cutsinger families was celebrated this year by a grand social at Bradley's ford on the ge-lorious fourth. There were enough of them present to make a good sized crowd, we are confident, if all attended.

July 21, 1877 - Miss Susan Thompson is to attend Vassar College this fall. This is the largest female institution in America, situated in the city of schools, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Miss Susan will be the first to attend the school from Johnson County. (Later her cousins, Elizabeth Thompson(Mrs. T.J. Moffett) and Mary Thompson (Mary Moore) attended Vassar.

Feb. 2, 1882 - Gov. Porter was driven to the palatial home of John A. Thompson on the hill where he took tea.

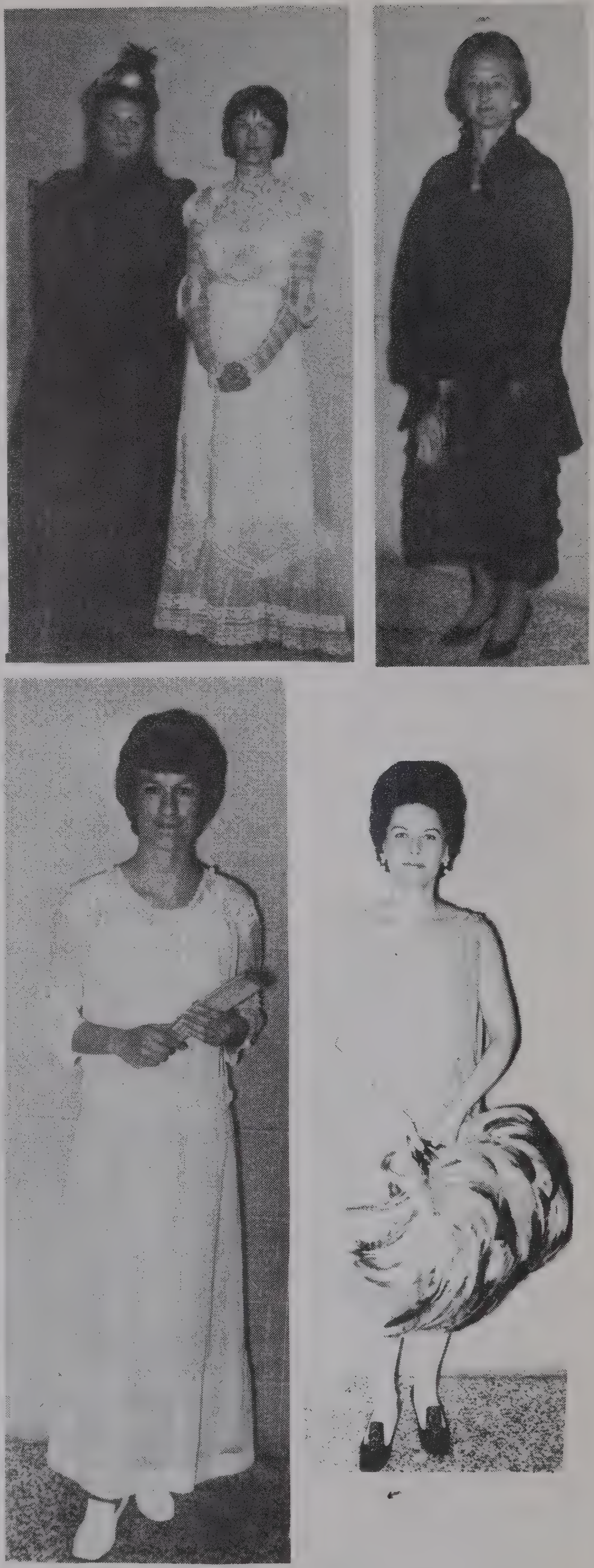
EDINBURG COURIER
January 1st, 1880
OPEN HOUSE

The gentlemen named below will be pleased to receive their lady friends on Thursday January 1st, 1880 at the places designated.

Messrs. C.A. Goodrich, J.L. Todd and J.L. Case at Mrs. Ewing's residence, corner Main-Cross and Pleasant streets, between the hours of noon and three p.m.

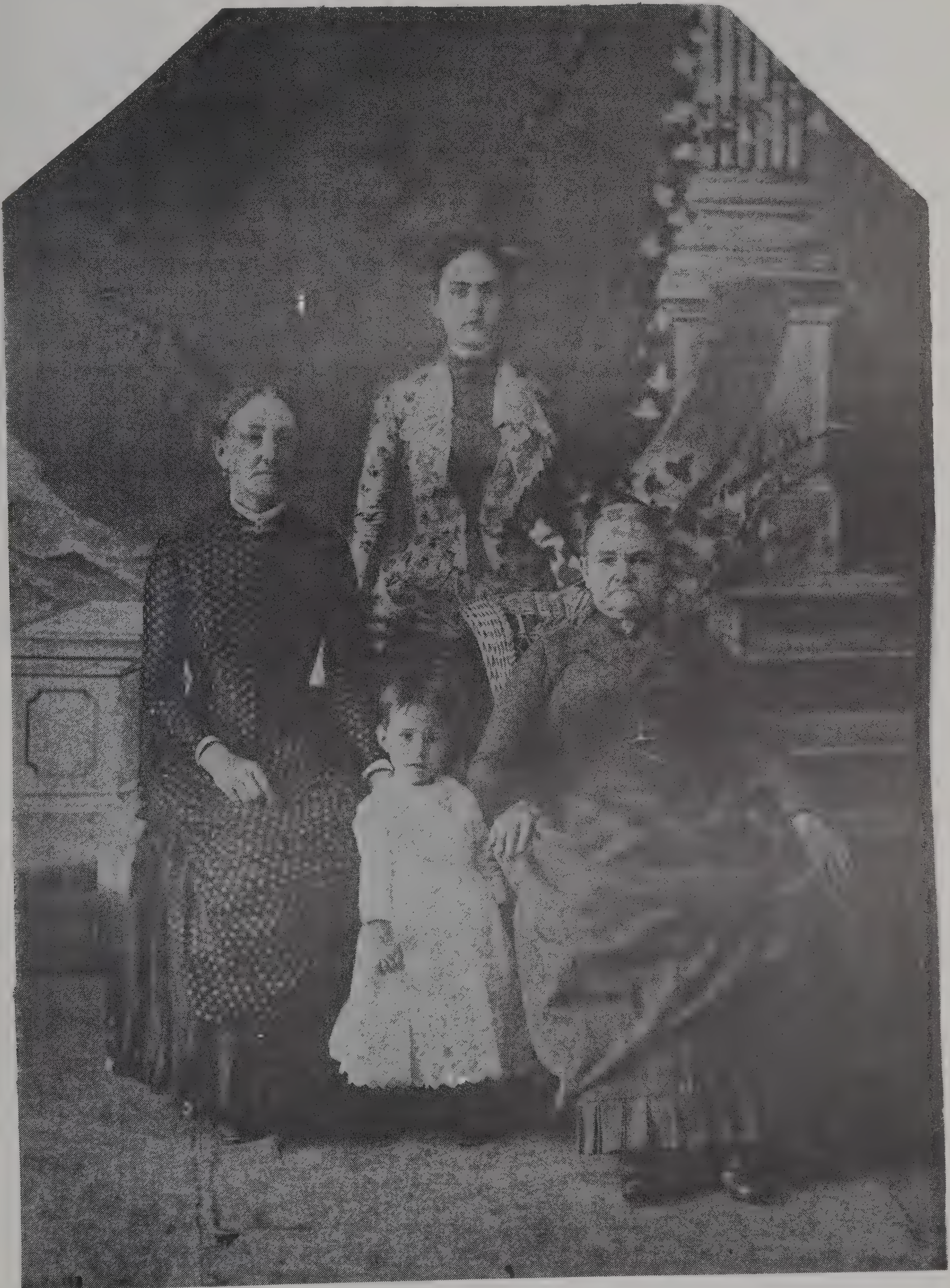
Messrs. Sam Thompson, Travis Threlkeld and Will Breeding at John A. Thompson's residence between the hours of two and four p.m.

Messrs. Clarance Adams, Will Threlkeld and Mark Deming at the residence of Mrs. Hackney, corner Thompson and Walnut streets, between the hours of three and five p.m.



At Alumni Banquet Kick-Off for Sesqui – Upper left: Miss Susan Richards modeling a dress and bonnet belonging to Mrs. D. R. Webb about 1870. To right: Mrs. Ron Richards in wedding gown of Mrs. James Broderick in 1901. Mrs. Vern Handly to right modeling the wedding ensemble of Susan Cutsinger Russell (Mrs. Alexander) of 1840 vintage.

Jody Schaffer (now Mrs. Terry Workman) in in graduation dress of Miss Maude Park, class of 1891. Mrs. Don Holloway in 1920's beaded gown which belonged to Mrs. Rebie Thompson Cutsinger.



Mollie Cutsinger Thompson (Mrs. J. A.), her daughter, Mrs. Susan Bailey (Mrs. H. C.), and Mrs. Sam Cutsinger.

A MOST BRILLIANT RECEPTION

Edinburg Courier
Sept. 9th, 1886

At 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening of last week the elegantly furnished parlors of the palatial residence of Mr. John A. Thompson on the hill were thrown open to receive the guests that had been previously invited to be present at the reception tendered by the Misses Lizzie, Minnie and Lillie Thompson to their guests, the Misses Ella Ashley and Cornelia Bush of Joliet, Illinois.

It was undoubtedly the grandest and most fashionable society event given in this city for several years past, and was largely attended by guests from a distance as well as at home, invitations being issued to one hundred and twenty-five.

The spacious lawn was beautifully illuminated with large and small Chinese lanterns and the magnificent residence was handsomely decorated and brilliantly lighted Indeed, a cheerful and most hearty welcome greeted the invited guest from every nook and corner

Hart's orchestra, of Indianapolis had been secured and was stationed conveniently and at the command of the party. From this one would infer that ""tripping the light fantastic toe" would be the main feature of the evening and indeed it was. The music discoursed by the orchestra was simply superb. Promptly at 9 o'clock the dancing commenced and it continued to the "wee sma' hours of morn". Cards and other amusements were provided for those who did not wish to indulge in dancing.

At 11 o'clock the guests were invited out to refreshments and for the occasion preparation had been made on the lawn, tables being tastily arranged therefor under a large canopy tent, which was decorated and lighted to accord with those previously mentioned. Sixty-two sat down to the first table.

The refreshments were elegant in every detail and much relished, especially so by those who had previously danced.

Never has it been our good fortune to witness, in this city, as large a crowd of handsomely attired ladies. All appeared in full party dress. We take the liberty to append a partial list of those most noticeable. We should like to give a full list, but want of space confines us to the ladies who received and the ladies from a distance.

Miss Lillie Thompson was handsomely attired in light blue surrah and satin - diamond ornaments.

Miss Lizzie Thompson wore cream surrah and satin with trimmings of lace - diamonds and corsage bouquet.

Miss Minnie Thompson looked charming in a costume of sea-foam surrah combined with shell pink crepe - diamonds and choice flowers.

Miss Ella Ashley, of Joliet, Ill., wore a toilet of shell pink satin and velvet - her ornaments were diamonds.

Miss Cornelia Bush, of Joliet, Ill., looked attractive in sea-foam surrah combined with velvet - corsage bouquet - diamonds.

Miss May Sells, of Indianapolis, blue cashmere and brocade velvet - flowers and magnificent diamond jewelry.

Miss Mamie Lucas, of Columbus, wore a lovely toilet of cream brocade satin and crepe.

Miss Drue Sinner, of Covington, Ky., blue silk with trimmings of cream lace.

Miss Jessie and EdnaThompson, of Franklin, wore cream cashmere and brocade silk combined - diamond ornaments.

Miss Birdie McKennan, of Indianapolis, a costume of cream crazy cloth.

Miss Claudia Cutsinger wore a becoming toilet of cream satin and lace - corsage bouquet.

Miss Wilson, of Columbus, wore white with lace trimmings.

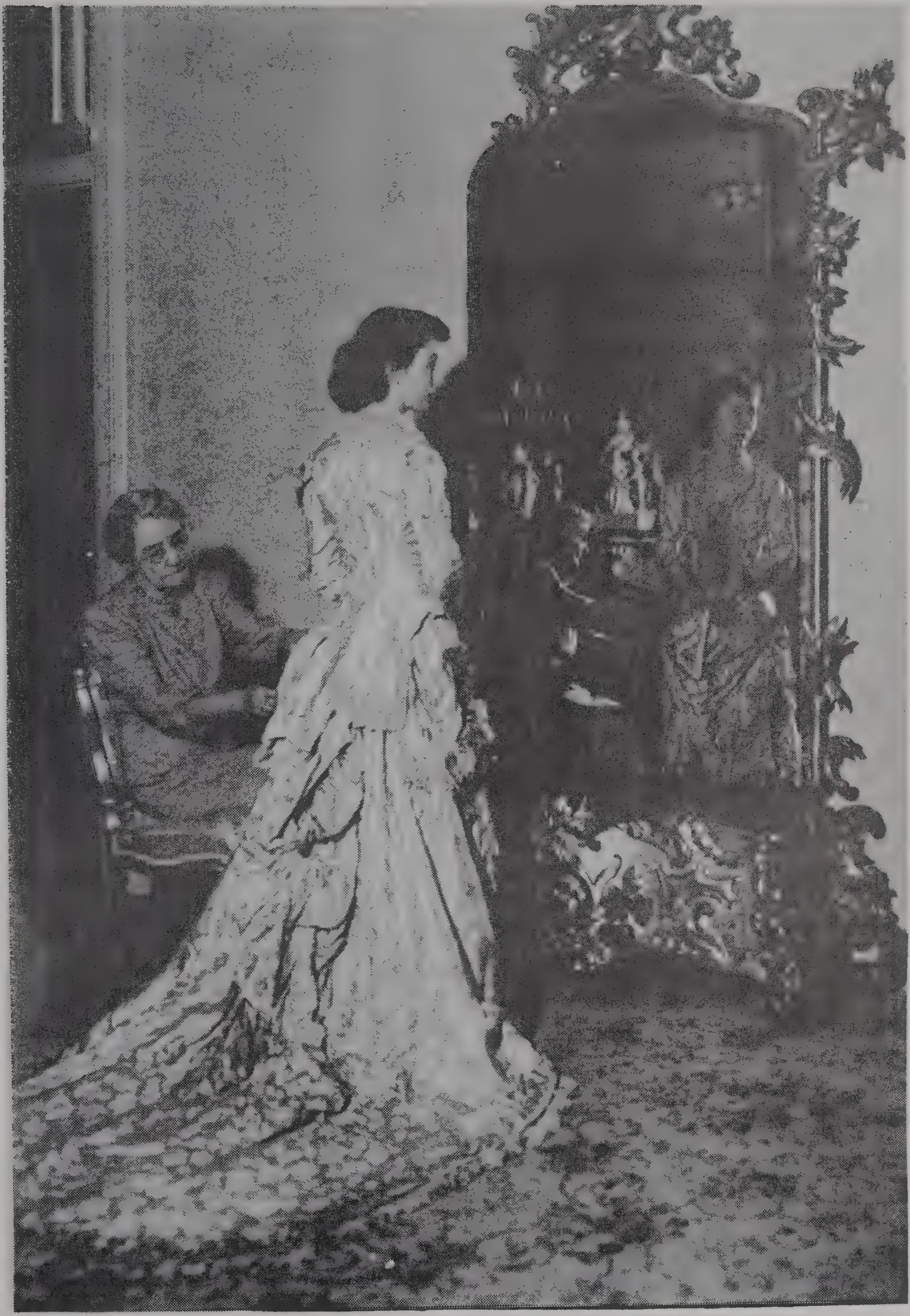
Miss Josie Otto, of Columbus, white handsomely embroidered.

BRILLIANT WEDDING OF MR. HENRY C. BAILEY AND MISS SUSIE THOMPSON ON LAST THURSDAY

Edinburg Courier
Thurs, May 11, 1882

The palatial residence of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Thompson, on the hill, in the western part of town, was filled last Thursday afternoon with an elegant gathering of guests, who came in response to invitations issued some time ago for the marriage of their oldest daughter, Miss Susie, to Mr. Henry C. Bailey, of Cincinnati, O.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Darst, of this city, in the presence of a hundred or more admiring friends and relatives, some of whom came a long distance to witness the happy pair launched upon the matrimonial sea, and when Miss Thompson had became Mrs. Bailey, the friends rushed forward and warm were the congratulations and



The wedding gown of Susan Thompson Bailey being modeled by Betty Osterbur Fish in the Thompson-Sconce music room in 1949. Mrs. Bailey, to the left, is adjusting the gown designed by L. S. Ayres & Co. for her wedding in 1882.

sincere the best wishes for the future happiness of the handsome groom and lovely bride.

The house was beautifully and tastefully draped with flowers and evergreens, and suspended from the arch between the two parlors was a beautiful floral monogram "BT" under which the couple stood while the ceremony was being performed. There were no attendants.

Immediately after the ceremony was performed, in the large dining room one of the most stupendous wedding dinners was spread. The flowers, of novel design, and the cakes, wrought in attractive forms, added beauty to the toothsome character of the delicious repast.

About 4 o'clock P.M., Mr. and Mrs. Bailey bid adieu to their relatives and friends and took the train for Cincinnati, O., from whence they proceeded to Covington, Ky., their future home, where a reception was tendered them that night in their own house, which had been previously furnished and fitted up. They will be followed by the kind wishes of a legion of friends who hold them in the highest esteem, and who hope their lives may be passed in happiness and prosperity.

They were the recipients of many valuable wedding presents, a list of which we give below, which were displayed and excited the admiration of all.

LIST OF PRESENTS:

Elegant Bible, Peter Smock; Boquet holder, Orpha L. Reed; Towel Cover, Mrs. Lida McEwen; China tea set, Miss Penfield, Illinois; Two beautiful vases, Kittie Cutsinger; Beautiful shell base, Mollie Cutsinger, "Lucile," Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Dorsey; Ornamental toilet set, Wm. Threlkeld; Jewelry case, George Cutsinger and lady; Elegant tidy, Mr. and Mrs. G.E. Mayfield; Silver toilet stand, Kate Wilson, Columbus; Floral ornament, George E. Trow, Madison; China platter, Amelia VanEmon, Cincinnati; Set silver tea spoons, Mrs. Jennie Thompson; Beautiful silver water set, brothers and sister.

Silver jelly dish, Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Williams; China salad dish, Jimmie and Louie Thompson; Silver berry dish, Mr. and Mrs. E.C. Thompson; Silver Butter dish, Hannah and Willie Cutsinger; China fruit set, Mrs. E.C. Hasson, Indianapolis; After-dinner tea set, Mr. and Mrs. Homer F. Frost; Silver fruit spoon, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cutsinger; Handsome diamond crescent pin, groom to bride; Silver cake stand, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Cutsinger; Silver pickle caster, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Cutsinger; French clock and statuary, Mrs. J.A. Thompson; Elegant basket flowers, Susie Bradley, Indianapolis; Bronze terra cotta stand, Ivory H. Cutsinger and lady; Silver breakfast caster, Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Detrick; Beautiful painted satin fan, Mr. and Mrs. I.D. Collier; Silver card receiver, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Valentine.

Beautiful toilet set, Mr. and Mrs. Pettibone, Cincinnati; Silver cologne holder, Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Thompson, Jr.; Two ornamental statues, Chas. Holmes and M.G. Deming; Solid silver ice cream spoon, Miss Lizzie Ross, Madison; Pair hand knit silk hose for groom, Mrs. Samuel Cutsinger; Silver pie knife and case, Mr. and Mrs. A.C. Thompson; Two beautiful panel paintings, Henry Eitel, Indianapolis; Pair silver and china vases, Johnnie and May Thompson; Unique set silver sale cellars, Lizzie and Minnie Thompson; Beautiful inlaid pearl platter, Miss Belle Henderson, Nevada; Gold plated ornamental match case, C.F. Seaton, Indianapolis; Elegant silver butter dish, D.L. Deming and Frank Walsh, Set Japanese dishes, (96 pieces) James and William Breeding; Two beautiful boquet holders, Emma and Harry Lewis, Franklin; Elegant toilet stand and Jewel case, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thompson. Elegant steel engraving, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. McGraw, Cleveland, Ohio; Silver crackle ware set, Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Coates, Cincinnati; Linen table cloths and napkins, Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Thompson, Franklin; Elegant hand worked table scarf, Misses Effie and Minnie Ewing, Cincinnati; Silver butter knife and sugar spoon, Mr. and Mrs. Levi C. Goodale, Cincinnati; Highly ornamented stone platter, Blanche MaBury, San Francisco, California; Silver water pitcher and goblet, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Cornelius, St. Paul, Minnesota; Elegant silver and Bohemian ware fruit stand, from employees of Bradstreet & Co., Cincinnati. Last, but not least, a check for five hundred ($500.00) dollars to the bride from her father.

Sept. 27, 1883: W. H. Thompson & Co. have moved their stock of dry goods from Franklin to this city-- in Alex Pruitt's rooms.

LODGES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Two lodges in Edinburg are well over 100 years old.

The Masonic Lodge F. & A. M. No. 100 was chartered May 29, 1850, the first Masonic Lodge in Johnson County, Abraham Lee was Worshipful Master, Milton Treadway, Sr. Warden, and George W. Smith, Jr. Warden. Members rented a hall from William Morris in a building then owned by Mrs. A.R. Mulkins (Central Hotel), the daughter of Chris Warner. In 1860 the lodge purchased the hall issuing bonds in denominations of $5 to pay for same.

The Masons remained in these rooms until 1872 when they moved to the third floor on the west side of the A.C. Thompson Walnut and Main (Danner Bldg) and in 1890 they bought the floor.

In the spring of 1907 it was concluded to build a Masonic Temple at a cost of $12,800 located on the southeast corner of Walnut and Thompson. Without any special ceremony on Dec. 3, 1907, a copper box containing a short history of the lodge and other articles were placed in the cornerstone in the northwest corner of the building by Worshipful Master R.C. Mayhall in presence of brothers J.C. Valentine, A.W. Winterberg, S.W. Davis, Thomas Cutsinger, George DeHart, Frank Winterberg, Jr., Wm. E. Dawson, J.R. Mutz, Elijah Deupree.

The building was completed May 1, 1908 and on Sept. 1, 1908 a large concourse of brothers and wives were invited from Indianapolis, Franklin and Columbus to the dedication of the Temple. All Grand officers were present. After the dedication the company was invited to the Opera House on the first floor where a musical program was given and Judge Gavin of Indianapolis spoke. Afterwards guests were invited to the banquet room where an elaborate spread had been prepared and enjoyed by all.

Present officers are: Charles Skaggs, Worshipful Master: Don Campbell, Sr. Warden; Wayne Petty, Jr. Warden; Byce Sconce, secretary; Robert Smock, treas.

The Edinburg Eastern Star celebrated its 50th anniversary in July of 1972 being organized in 1922 with Mrs. James Stott as Worthy Matron and A.R. Mulkins Worthy Patron. Worthy Matron and Patron today are Mrs. Doyle Wright and Robert Stine. Rainbow Girls Edinburg Assembly is in its 25th year in 1972 established in 1947.

IOOF

In less than a year after the Masonic Lodge was organized here, Herndon Lodge No. 95 of Odd Fellows was organized, March 28, 1851.

First members were I.S. Jelf, Noble Grand Stewart Wilson, Vice Grand; J.J. Hunt, sec; A Clark, treas; Ephraim Adams, Robert Stackhouse Edward Hubbard and J.E. Hancock.

Brothers Clark, Adams, and Wilson were appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws. The Noble Grand, Vice Grand and Secretary were elected trustees of the lodge for one year.

At one time both the Odd Fellows and Masons met in the Holland street building. Soon the Odd Fellows bought a part of the third floor of the A,C. Thompson building (Danner's) and in 1925 had its own lodge hall on the north side of Main Cross street with the hall over two business buildings (Mickey's and Randolph Hdwe.)

The Rebekah Lodge, sister lodge to the Odd Fellows lodge, was organized in 1893.

Knights of Pythias was represented by Fidelity Lodge No. 42 instituted in 1874. George W. Downs was first head of the lodge. Its halls were also on the third floor of the Danner building.

R.M. Kelly Post GAR was organized in 1883. First officers were J.C. Freese, Leander Stater, E.H. Thompson, J.D. Breeding, W.C. Prather, C.W. Lee, A.W. Winterberg, J.B. Nickey, J.R. Sharp, J.D. Fee, A.P. Wolf.

Red Men's Lodge - Sidney Parr, secretary.

Transition photo: 1915 Cole auto belonging to James Stott, left, and his horse drawn mail hack at rear. Others shown, Russell Stott, Charlie Kingan, young woman not identified, Mrs. Kingan, Tom Cutsinger.

A Veteran of Foreign Wars Johnson County post was established in 1918 after World War 1 and also the American Legion Post 233. For many years the Legion met in the basement of the Wurtz Bakery on corner of Holland and east Main Cross street. After World War II the Legion bought a home on the corner of Holland and Thompson streets. Later the Charles Breeding home on Eisenhower Drive was purchased and made into a post home and now the post has a new post home on the same location complete with a Community Room. Don Ramey is post commander.

The Edinburg American Legion Post 233 received its charter in 1920 and after losing its charter in 1925 was reinstated in 1929. Charter members were Harold Crater, Commander, E. A. Arthur, Fred Butler, Tom Butler, E. A. Bruce, Alonzo Bozell, Paul Christian, Sylvan Craig, L. D. Deatherage, Walter Drybread, Robert Gephart, Frank Haslam, Roscoe Heflen and Martin Land. Leo McNurnany was Commander in 1929.

The Legion Auxiliary was organized Nov. 26, 1929. Charter members were Ruth Rinkard, Corinna Hill, Ruth Allison, Minnie Allison, Lillian Dunavent, Margaret Lind, Florence Drybread, Mary Ann Hunter, Florence Knowlton, Mary Bice, Louise Fields, Mary B. Otto, Florence Mitchell, Mrs. Margaret Harlow, and Minnie Hardin.

WELCOME HOME

Welcome home parade showing Marshal B. Goodin.

WORLD WAR II HONOR ROLL

William Fisher
Dale Bills
Joseph Applegate
William Brown
Doyle Campbell

Merle J. Clark
Ralph E. Hill
Robert Rawlings
Wayne E. Hill
George L. Lambert

William McCarty
Raymond Nay
Joseph Whitlock
Louis Lind
Milton Byrd

THOMPSON
STATE
BANK

1922 Float

The Lind-Hill post of VFW was established in Edinburg after World War II and named after three Edinburg men who lost their lives in the service, Louis Lind, Ralph and Wayne Hill, all in the U.S. Air Corps.

The old Civic League organization organized in 1911, active in beautifying the cemetery, built band stand at park and bought pedestal street lights for Main Cross street, and water fountains. Members still in Edinburg of the early organization are Mrs. Roy Amos and Miss Mary Howell.

Edinburg had its first Chamber of Commerce in 1921 with J.M. Guest as secretary. Another chamber was organized in the 1950's and its first president was George Kohlmeier. Russell Stott is the Chamber of Commerce president today. From time to time the merchants have had an organization and were responsible for the Fall Festivals dating from the late 1920's and a Halloween parade and street dance. Edinburg merchants had a serice club in the 1930's.

The Business Women's Club of Edinburg dates back to 1923 and for several years was called the Business and Professional Women's Club. One of the first civic projects of the club was to push through the idea of paving Main Cross street which was done in 1924.

Charter members of the Business Women were Margaret Thompson, Florence Mutz, Maude Park, Florence Mitchell, Ruth Pruitt, Ruth Ross, Florence Drybread, Leora Carvin, Mary Tulley Wright, Matilda Breeding Harlow, Helen Compton Short, Minnie Hemphill, Carrie Wilson.

Present service clubs are Edinburg Lions Club organized in 1941 with David Holmes as first president. The residence of the late Dr. J.T. Middleton on south Walnut street was purchased and remodeled as a clubhouse which serves as a meeting place for several community events. Present officers are Richard Neville, president; Ron Seals, vice president; David Patterson, secretary; and R.H. Wilson, treasurer.

The Edinburg Exchange Club was organized in March of 1953 with the following officers: Walter Parmer, president; Larry Quick, vice president; Charles Mitchell, secretary; and Dale Parsley, treasurer.

1922 Centennial Parade

The Blue River Jaycees Club was organized in 1971 in Edinburg with Loren Myers as president. An earlier Edinburg club was headed by Earl Kime and organized in 1955. The present club has a Jayshee club with Mrs. Larry McKinney as president. The first club had a Jayshee organization.

Edinburg has two sororities devoted to civic, educational and cultural projects. Tri Kappa was organized in 1941 with Mrs. Martin Mutz as president. The president today is Mrs. Joe McMillan. An associate chapter was formed in 1960. Mrs. Mitchell Glick is president.

The second sorority is Beta Sigma Phi organized six years ago with Mrs. Meredith Coy as president. Present president is Mrs. Clif Eskew. Mrs. Harold Bruce is the president of the new exemplary chapter formed in 1972.

The Edinburg Study Club has met in Edinburg since 1920 and took the place of the old Delphian Club.

There are six extension homemakers clubs in Edinburg.

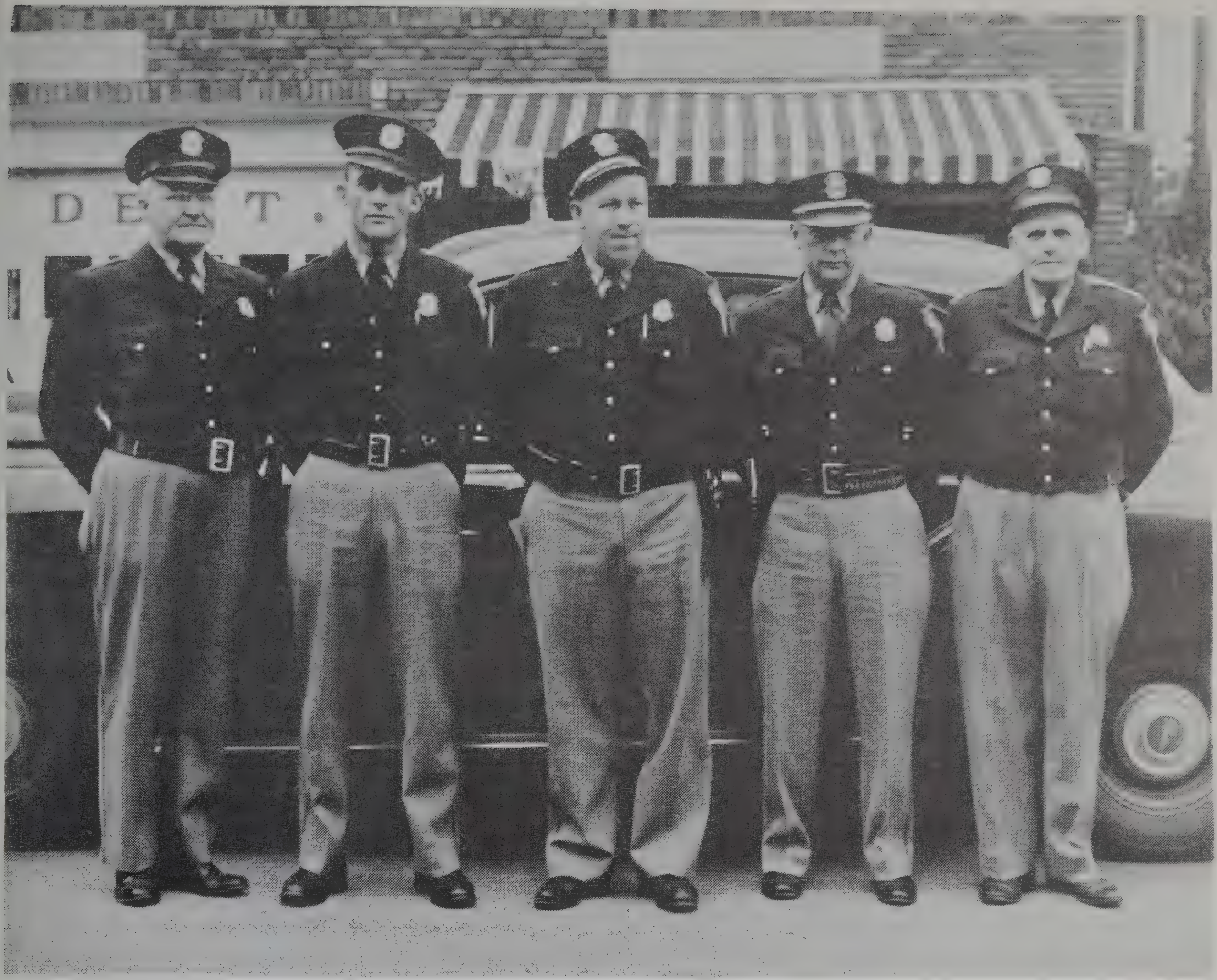
BOY SCOUTS - GIRL SCOUTS

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts had their beginning in Edinburg fifty years ago, in 1922. The two groups were new in the Centennial year of the town. Mrs. Josephine Dix headed the Girl Scouts.

Again around 1926 the scouts had a new organization with S.C. Harrell as Scout Master and Mrs. Harrell as leader of the Girl Scouts. Mr. Harrell, fondly called Kim, led the boys for many years and was followed by Charles Gundrum. Recent Girl Scout leader was Mrs. A.J. Christopher who moved from Edinburg in 1972. She was succeeded by Mrs. Clarence Ashley who has been in Scout work over 20 years. Cub scout leaders have been Wayne Kellams, James Sanders, Roland Barron and now Cecil Helton. Mr. Helton also has a Boy Scout troop as does Ray Gilpin.

One of the earliest buildings to be built was the three-story building at the southeast corner of Main Cross and Holland, built by J. L. Toner for a business house, but which became through the years, the Commercial Hotel, Beal Hotel, Central Hotel, the Haslam building and now Handly building which in its complex houses the Justice of Peace office, until recently the Blue River Building and Loan Association, Blue River Township trustee's office and apartments.

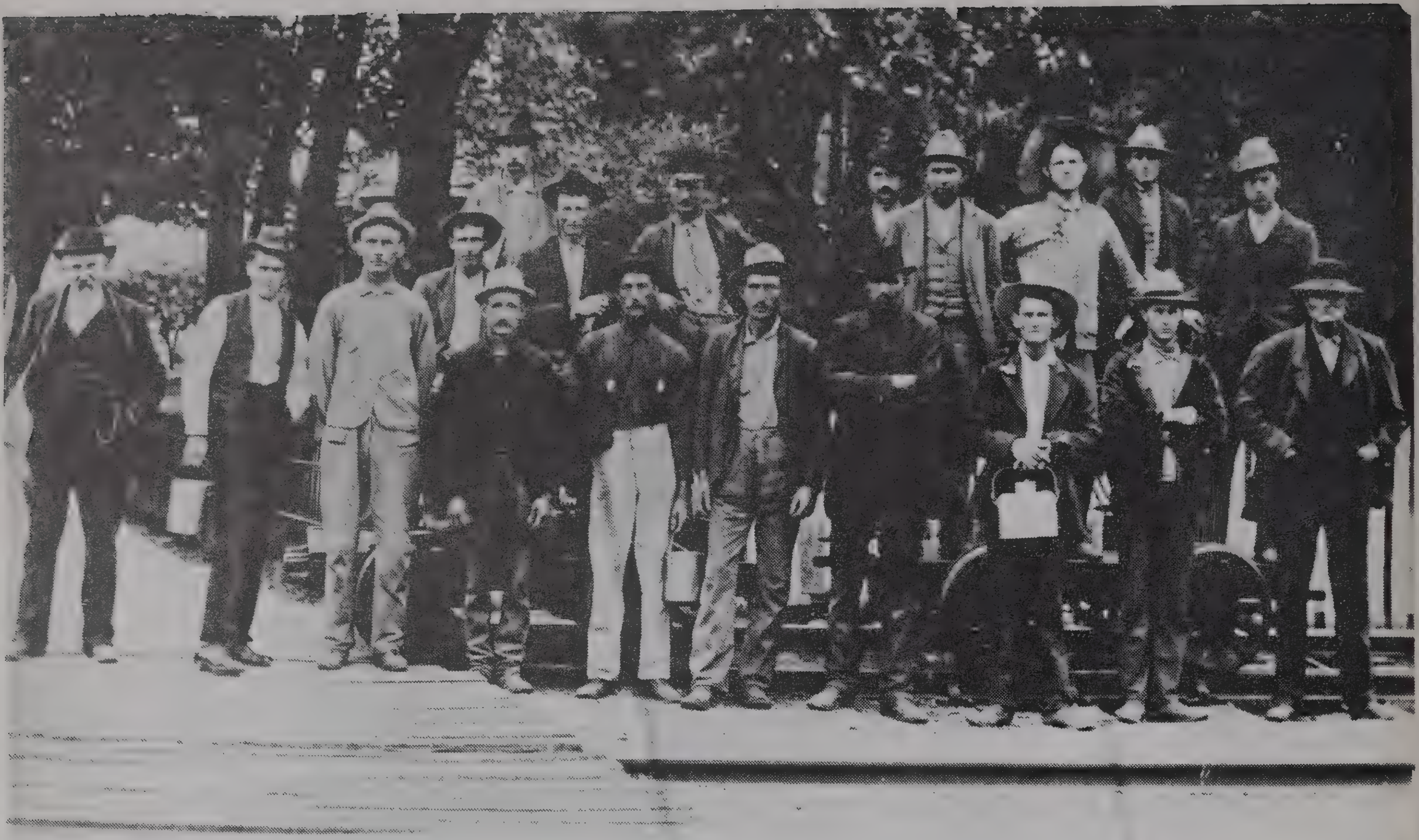
Rexham Corporation, north of Edinburg, until 1972 Riegel Paper Corp. one of the busy industries of Edinburg.



Picture of former Police Force: Left to right - William Gosney, Gene Graham, Frank Andrews, Clarence Ferguson, Forest Huntsman. Andrews and Ferguson were former Marshals. Picture taken in early 40's, shows City Hall with fire department located at present Police Station. Police Station then was north of Courier bldg.

The Town Marshall list is not too complete. Two of the earlier town marshals were Rand Stivers in 1870 and John Jacob Roth. Other marshals have been Noah Perry, A.R. Mulkins, Red Nicholson, George Runyon, B. Goodin, James Glass, Frank Phillips, W. C. Milburn, Tracy Dunham, Ed Williamson, Paul Fisher, Frank Andrews, Clarence Ferguson, Orean Waugh, Winfrey Burton, and the present chief Raymond Burton.

Edinburg Medical Clinic on Rd. 252 East



Railroad gang: First row: James Shoemake, Claude Shoemake, Elmer Israel, John Foley, Joshua Beech, Joseph Anderson, John Gaddis, Sam Waltz, Horace Israel, Martin Broderick. Top row: Sag Hege, Frank Phillips, Joe Hege, ? (unknown)' Wm. Huddleston, Charlie Dyke, Tom Louden, Wm. Byers. Rear: ? Johnson.

Starch Factory

Starch Factory Workers

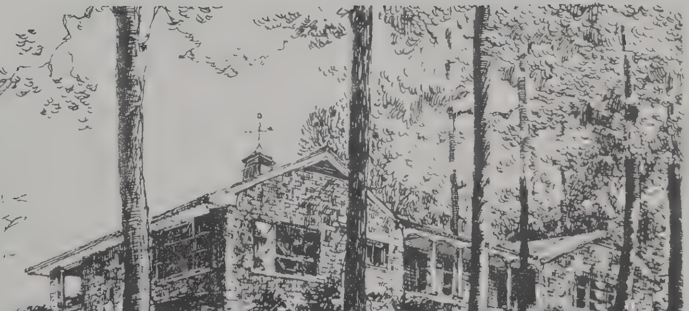
East Main Cross street

Main street

Pruitt East Addition

East Main Cross street

North Clay street



Frost Hill

Prosser Addition

Meadow Village

U.S. 31

East Main Cross

Main Street

East Main Cross

East Thompson

DO YOU REMEMBER HEARING OF THE FIRST TRAIN IN EDINBURG?

The first train ride! What an event in the life of every boy or girl, but to have had your first train ride on the first train that ran on the first railroad built in Indiana is a distinction and an occasion to thrill even the most passive nature. Jerome Armstrong, of Edinburg, when eleven years old, accompanied by his father Robert S. Armstrong, a wagon maker of the early days of Edinburg was a passenger on the first train to make the through trip over the Madison & Indianapolis line, the first railroad built in Indiana.

In recalling the trip, Mr. Armstrong, who was in splendid health at the age of 84, told of his early home which stood in a clearing just east of where the Edinburg Christian church now stands, the only house east of the railroad at that time. His father knew the railroad men, who brought their work to his wagon shop in Edinburg.

When the road was completed in the fall of 1847, the elder Armstrong and his son Jerome were promised a ride on the first train. The train left the southern terminal of the line at Madison and arrived in Edinburg a little after daylight. Little Jerome and his father were ready and waiting, each carrying a small wooden stool on which to sit, as the train was composed of only an engine and three flat cars. After firing the engine with long slabs of cordwood at Edinburg, the eveventful journey was begun.

The trip was through a tall lane of trees which formed an arch over the right-of-way and offered shelter from the hot sun. The arch was broken in spots where some settler had made a clearing and established his home, and in these clearings persons from the countryside for miles round had gathered to see the train pass.

Mr. Armstrong says one thing indelibly impressed on his memory was the awe with which the train was regarded and how the crowds at the clearings would break up at the approach of the train. Many children and some of the women would run into the forest to hide.

The passengers had brought along their lunches and at a spot somewhere south of the Marion County line a stop was made and the crew enjoyed a picnic dinner. Water was taken on at a nearby stream and the crude engine with its three small flat cars continued its way to arrive on the outskirts of Indianapolis at the bank of Pogues run, as far as the road had been built at that time.

Mr. Armstrong recalled another incident, although of rather a personal nature, which he delighted in telling. Among the crowd assembled to view the arrival of the train were his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Armstrong, who owned the Buck tavern in Indianapolis on the site occupied by the Claypool hotel. Jerome's grandmother, he recalled lifted him from his seat on the flat car and said: "Jerome I just knew you and your daddy would come, but the tavern is full with this crowd in town and there is only one place in the house for you to sleep and that is on the dining table." He found a very comfortable night's rest after the trip on the dining table with only a coat for a pillow.

– EDINBURG FIRSTS –

Edinburg as the first settlement in Johnson County has several firsts.

The first white man to build a cabin in Johnson County was John Campbell who settled on the present site of Edinburg in March of 1820.

Mrs. Joseph Townsend was the first white woman to die in the county. She died in 1820 and is buried on the Thompson hill.

The first store in Johnson County was at Edinburg in 1822 when merchants Booth and Newby of Salem opened a general store and had the first goods to be sold in the county.

The first white child born in Johnson County was Mary Campbell, daughter of the first settler, John Campbell.

The first land bought from the government was purchased at the Brookville land office Oct. 4, 1820, in Edinburg and Blue River Township.

EDINBURG COURIER
Sept. 29th, 1877

By the order of the Board of County Commissioners made at the recent session, the town of Amity, with about three thousand acres of land, laying in a kind of neck south-east of Amity, has been cut off Franklin township and given to Blue River township.

LEVI RECORDS IS EDINBURG'S CENTENARIAN

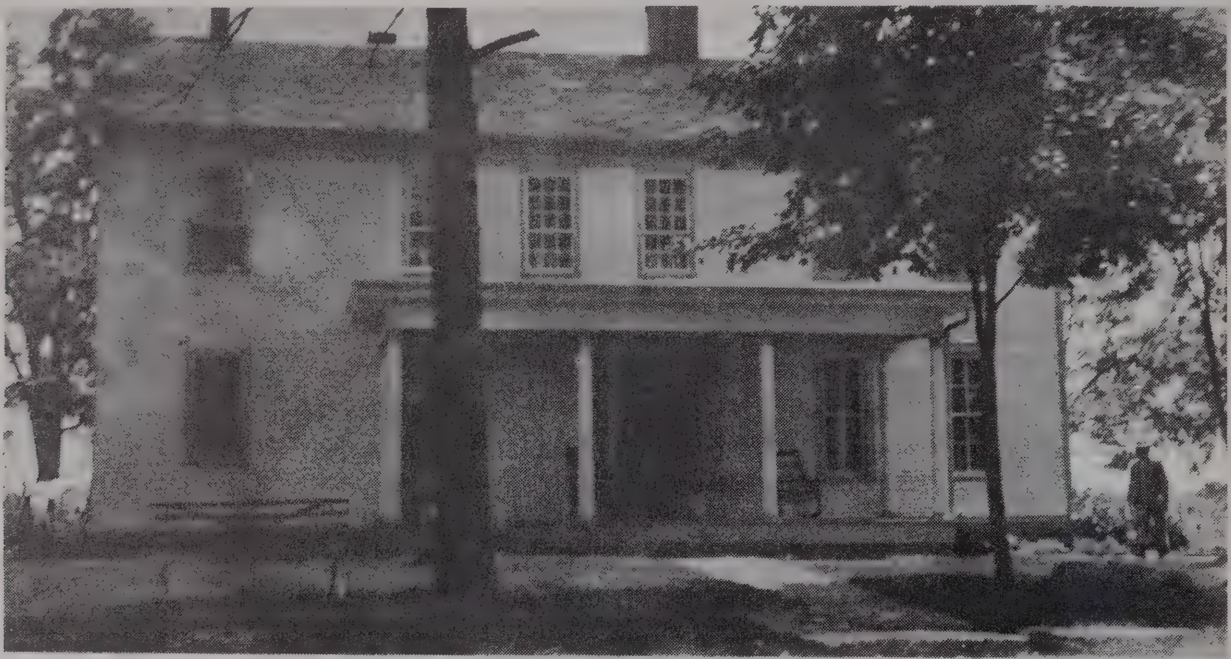
Levi N. Records, 307 south Kyle street, is Edinburg's centenarian having celebrated his 100th birthday last October 6.

Born in Shelby County in Jackson Township, Mr. Records is a descendant of one of the earliest pioneers in the area, William P. Records who came into the area in 1820.

Mr. Levi Records entered the coal business in 1900 in Edinburg and was located north of the depot on the railroad.

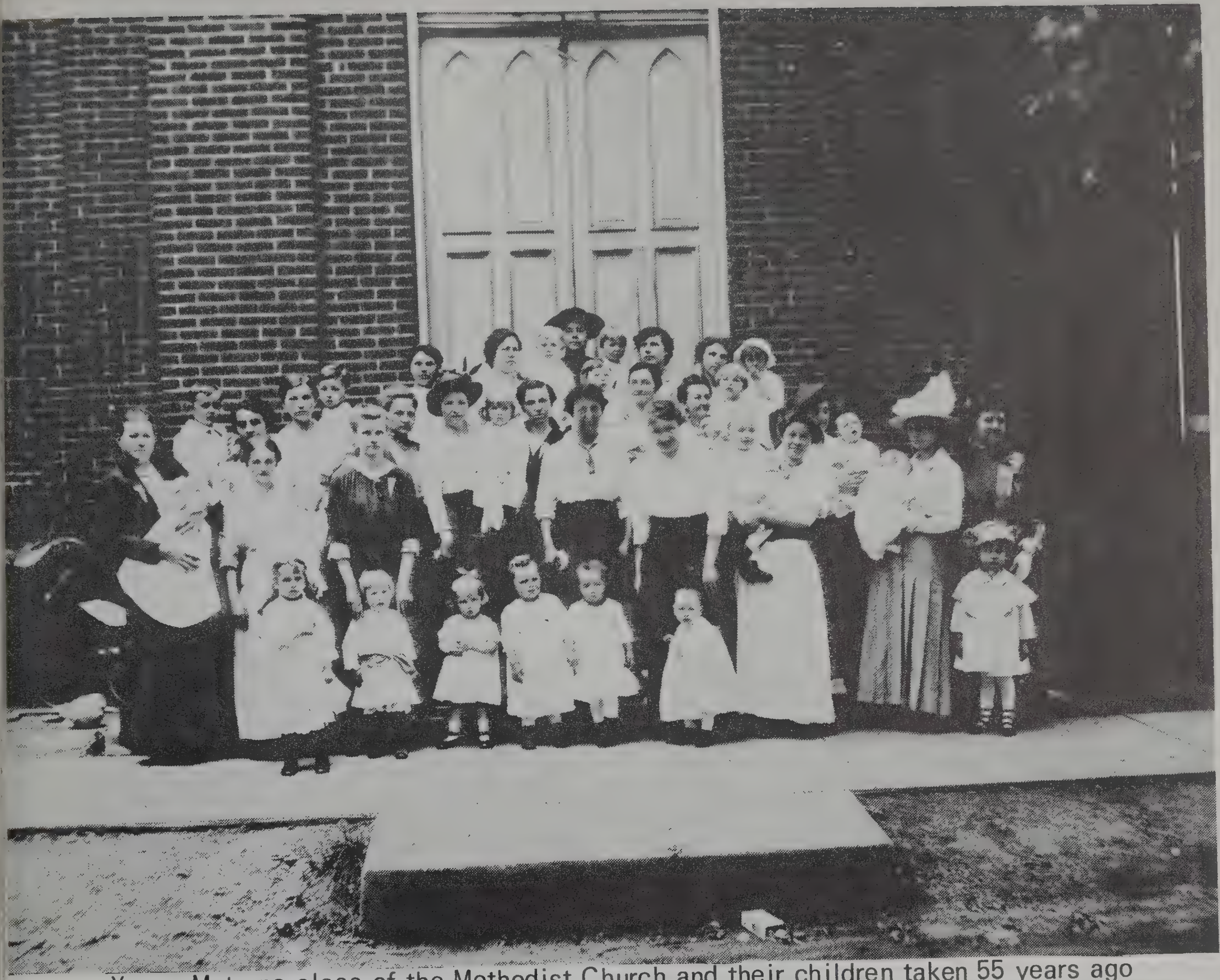
His son, James L. Records, has been in business in Edinburg 56 years having continued the coal business and adding a mill for the grain business locating at the present location on county line road. Since the entry of Richard Records into the business in 1946 the firm has been called Records Feed and Supply Store.

Mr. and Mrs. James Records live in one of the earliest homes in Edinburg at 303 south Kyle street, the home of Harvey Lewis, early Edinburg merchant.

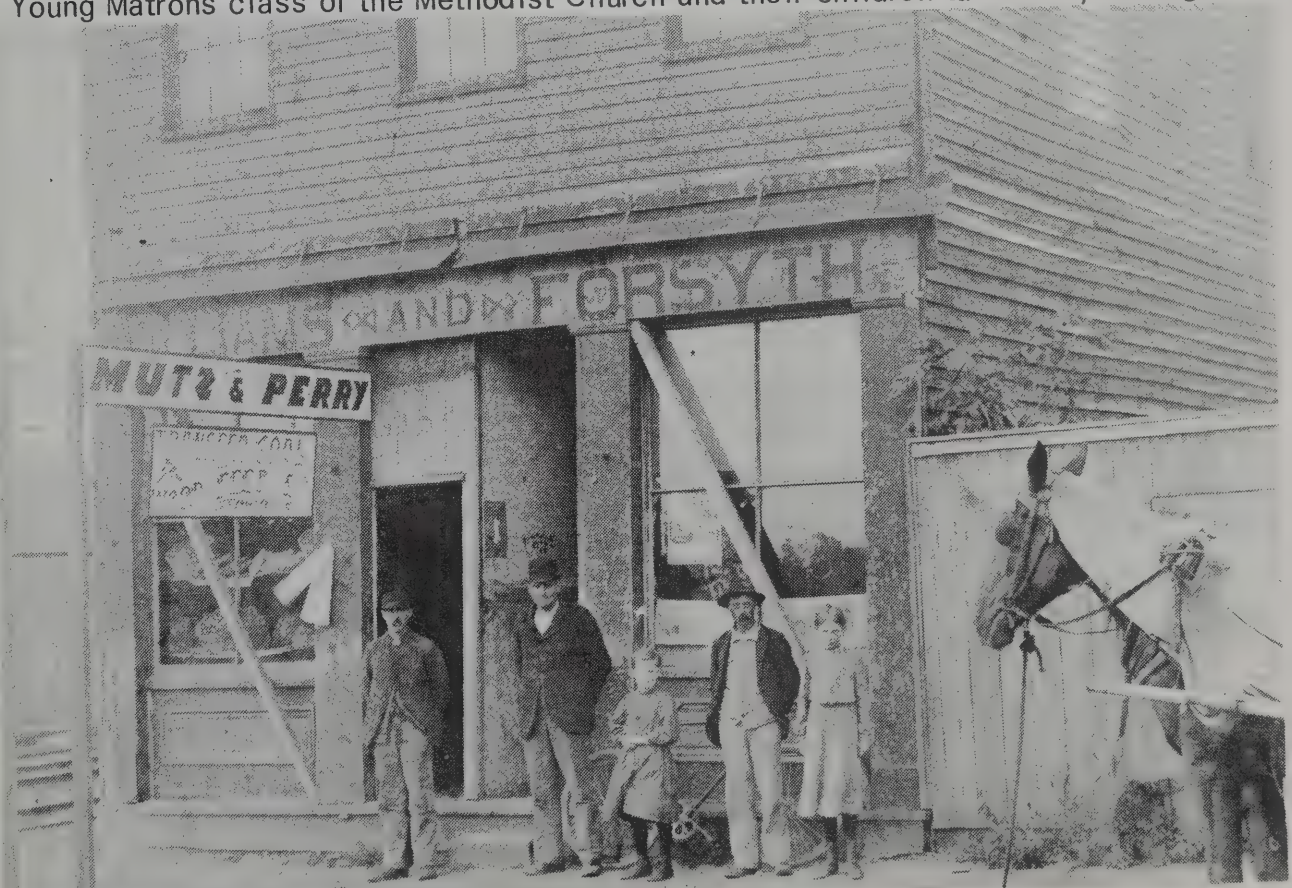


Old home of James Thompson, builder of Thompson Mill, constructed in 1850's across from Thompson Mill site

One of the oldest homes in Edinburg near Blue River Dam



Young Matrons class of the Methodist Church and their children taken 55 years ago


AND FORSYTH
MUTZ & PERRY

Mutz and Perry Store on Main Cross street and railroad

SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

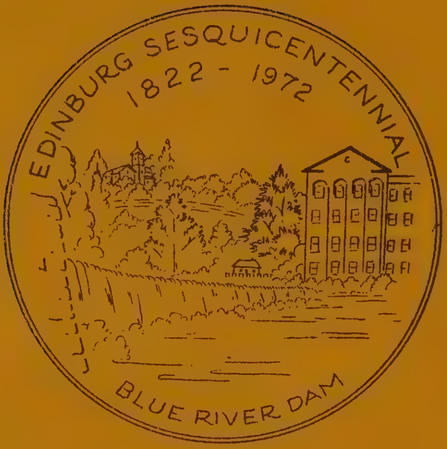
Richard Records, ch.
Mrs. Francis Otto, vice ch.
Mrs. George Thacker, sec.
Russell Stott
Mrs. B. G. Breeding
Byce Sconce
Mrs. Harold Patterson
Max Breeding
Mrs. James Rutherford
John Saberton
Mrs. Harold Bruce
Hugh Hamilton
Baron LaGrange, Att.

The late Dale Amos was a member of the commission during the first few months of planning.

EDINBURG BUSINESS DIRECTORY – 1972

BRANIGIN'S CLOTHING STORE
KIMES'S JEWELRY AND MEN STORE
TASTY SHOP
BREWNER CAFE
LA BREC CONTRACTING
ESKEW FUNERAL HOME
BEAUTY VILLA
MEADS TAXI
SHEP'S PAINT & BODY SHOP
DR. WM. SMITH
HENDERSON'S SUDS SHOP
THOMAS WELDING SHOP
BURTON'S GROCERY
JAY C STORE
IGA FOODLINER
SHELBY AVE. GROCERY
WALTZ GROCERY
KNIGHTS FOOD LOCKER
SPARKLE CLEANERS
GILES PLUMBING & HEATING
EDINBURG FLOWER SHOP
R & S FARMERS SUPPLY
SKELGAS FARMERS SUPPLY
RECORDS FEED AND COAL
RUNSHE TIN SHOP
DOUTHIT FURNITURE
LONG ELECTRIC
BLUE RIVER PRODUCTS
BO-WITT PRODUCTS
LARSEN'S
SCHAFFER'S DRUGS INC.
MARGIES DRESS SHOP
HILL BROTHERS VENEERS
RANDOLPH HARDWARE
ROGERS STANDARD OIL STATION
BURTON'S MOBIL GAS
FERGUSON SUNOCO
NEVILLE'S UNION "76"
TOWN TAVERN
EDINBURG BLOCK CO. INC.
TOM'S TV
D. R. WEBB VENEER
ROGERS & MCKINNEY, ATTYS.

DANNER BROTHERS
REXHAM CORP
AMOS THOMPSON CORP
MIDWEST ART & METAL
BLUE RIVER BUILDING & LOAN
EDINBURG STATE BANK
BARRETTS JEWELRY
ROBERTSON CHEVROLET & PONTIAC
SNIDERS AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY
A & W ROOT BEER
NIP & SIP
CENTRAL TOOL & DIE
KELLAMS INSURANCE
BARNHILL GULF SERVICE
LONG SHELL STATION
SHERMAN'S BARBER SHOP
MYERS BARBER SHOP
COMMUNITY GRAIN
DENTONS GROCERY
COLFORDS GROCERY
GOLDSMITHS
PIXY THEATRE
EDINBURG MEDICAL CENTER
LEONARD FORD SALES
DOLLAR STORE
VANDIVIER - PARSLEY FUNERAL HOME SOUTH
BURTON SUNOCO
TRI COUNTY ENTERPRISE
TRI COUNTY REALTY
WHITLOCK REALTY
WALTS GRILL
HOOKS DRUGS
JOHNSON COUNTY BEVERAGE CO.
LOTUS WAREHOUSE
LONNIE BODY SHOP
DMS PRODUCT & ENGINEERING
GILES PHILLIPS "66"
BURTONS POOL HALL
PRICE POOL HALL
KELLY BARBER SHOP
DR. FRANCISCO DEOGRACIAS
OWENS & STRAUGHN STANDARD
BARON LAGRANGE, ATTY.



Sesquicentennial Week
Sept. 16 – 23, 1972

Acknowledgments: Without the help of everyone in Edinburg this history could not have been compiled. I want to express my appreciation to the many for facts, pictures, bits of information which have been passed on to me; to acknowledge the volumes of painstaking notes the late Clifford Hamilton made on Edinburg and filed away for a history of Edinburg and his collection of pictures which were made available to me; also the research of Mr. and Mrs. Byce Sconce on the Thompson family; the artwork of Mrs. Arthur Pruitt on the seal, historical facts from the histories of Johnson County by Banta and by Branigin; facts and reminiscences of Robert Workman in "Blue River Heritage"; the history of Edinburg written in 1876 by J. H. Clarke, grandfather of Carl Heflen and the late Roy Compton, descendant of the pioneer, William Hunt; Stella Gerstorff's scrapbooks.

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